FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

M[illegible]LE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 AUGUST 1983

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation — Iraq launched a counteroffensive in the central sector over the weekend, cutting off Iranian forces in the Mehran area and killing over 3,000 enemy troops, according to Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Baghdad and Voice of the Masses radios. Iraq does not seek to retain Iranian territory but launched the new offensive to teach the Iranian leaders a lesson and to emphasize Iraq's ability to reach "any area" inside Iran, a communique and a related INA commentary stated. A subsequent INA report later updated Iranian losses to over 9,000 killed in the Mehran fighting. However, an Iranian military communique broadcast 7 August by Tehran Radio said Iranian forces "crushed" the Iraqi attack and inflicted over 1,500 casualties. A subsequent communique reported intensified fighting in the Mehran sector and a "futile" Iraqi counteroffensive. Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio claimed that the Iranian attempt to lift the "siege" of Mehran met with "abject failure" and one Iranian brigade was completely destroyed.

In the northern sector, Iran claimed further successes, asserting in announcements broadcast by the radio on 7 August that Iranian forces completely control the Piranshahr-Ravanduz road up to the Darband region. Communiques broadcast earlier by the radio said Iranian troops captured two peaks and a mountain pass near Darband after regaining one of the most important heights overlooking the Hajj 'Umran area. An Iraqi communique broadcast by the Voice of the Masses radio, however, stated that Iraqi forces had managed to repulse all Iranian attacks and destroyed three Islamic Revolution Guards Corps regiments. The communique also stated that all aircraft had returned safely. Tehran radio claimed earlier that Iranian forces had downed two Iraqi aircraft.

In another development, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn visited positions in the central sector, INA reported.

Iranian Peace Conditions — Iran has informed the Arab League secretary general that it is ready to end the fighting if Iraq compensates Iran for material losses in the war and if a Gulf mediation committee names the "aggressor state," KUNA reported citing a diplomatic source.

Iran

Several thousand Iranians staged a "cautious demonstration" in northern Tehran to commemorate the anniversary of the 1907 monarchist constitution, AFP reported on 5 August. The clandestine Radio Iran claimed that "millions" of Iranians participated in the demonstration, adding that the authorities censored news agency reports to give the impression that only the wealthy from northern Tehran supported the action. In a speech broadcast by the clandestine radio, Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar praised the "tens of thousands" of supporters who marched in Tehran on "Monarchy Day." He also announced the formation of the "tribal council of Iran."

The Egyptian interest section of the French Embassy was damaged by an explosion, IRNA reported. In a telephone call to the Tehran AFP office, responsibility was claimed by the Armenian "Orly Group."

Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe met with President Khamene'i and Prime Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, according to Tehran Radio. During the meeting, Abe appealed for an "early end" to the Gulf war but was told by Velayati that Iran will continue to fight to defend its territory, KYODO stated. Abe and the Iranian officials also discussed the completion of the petrochemical complex at Bandar-e Khomeyni which was suspended because of the war.

Lebanon

Diplomacy, McFarlane Mission — Israel will be ready to consider any Syrian proposal for the withdrawal of the IDF and the Syrian Army from Lebanon, including a proposal that Israel withdraw before Syria, a senior Israeli official announced in a statement reported by IDF Radio on 7 August. Meanwhile, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad explained Syria's "principled position" on the regional situation to U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane, Damascus radio reported. The Al-Asad-McFarlane talks in Damascus lasted about 6 hours, according to Radio Monte Carlo. An informed Syrian source cited by the radio said that the Syrian leader reiterated Syria's refusal to withdraw its forces until the IDF has completely withdrawn from Lebanon and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement has been condemned. In a report on the meeting, Beirut radio said McFarlane has opened a new door in the Syrian-U.S. dialogue by raising the possibility of a U.S. move to evict all foreign forces from Lebanon without any commitment or reference to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Earlier, Syria's *Tishrin* urged the U.S. envoy to hold a "serious dialogue with the real representatives of the Arab people" but stated that any useful dialogue must necessarily be based on the situation before the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, according to editorials reported by SANA.

Bombings — A car bomb exploded in Ba'labakk on 7 August, killing 33 people and injuring 133 others, Beirut radio announced. Responsibility for the bombing belongs to a group called the "Organization for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners," an anonymous caller to the Beirut AFP office stated. Earlier, 19 people were killed and 38 others were wounded by a car bomb explosion near a mosque in the northern city of Tripoli, according to a 5 August report by the radio. Explosions in Beirut and Al-'Urbaniyah also killed several people, Voice of Lebanon radio noted. The Voice of Lebanon blamed the Tripoli bombing on a local organization affiliated with "external sides" and linked the Ba'labakk explosion with the PLO-Syrian conflict.

On the other hand, Damascus radio said the new cycle of violence is part of an "Israeli-Phalangist" attempt to terrorize and subjugate the "Lebanese nationalist masses."

Meanwhile, Druze-Christian clashes continued in the Ash-Shuf area, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon reports on 7 August.

PLO Affairs

The Palestine Central Council (PCC), in a communique issued after its 3-5 August session in Tunis, stressed the need for "immediate dialogue" to rebuild relations with Syria and announced its decision to set up a committee drawn from PCC members to pursue this matter and help tackle the PLO's internal problems. The communique, which was broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, also noted the PCC's recommendation that the PLO Executive Committee establish a "military field committee" to supervise a cease-fire between the warring factions in the Al-Biqa' valley. The PCC reaffirmed the need to establish a "Palestinian patriotic front in occupied Palestine as an arm of the PLO," the communique said.

Earlier, in his speech to the PCC session, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat called for a "quiet and constructive dialogue" with Syria, according to Radio Monte Carlo. The PLO and Syria share the same destiny and should draw up a joint strategy, 'Arafat declared. 'Arafat also urged the PNC and the PLO Executive Committee to form a group to establish a "deep dialogue" with Syria and a "frank and comprehensive inter-Palestinian dialogue" on the various problems, according to a related Baghdad Voice of PLO radio report.

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf also called for "strategic relations" with Syria but sharply criticized the Syrians for interfering in PLO affairs and said they can stop the fighting in Al-Biqa', KUNA reported. Meanwhile, in a message to the PCC broadcast by the PLO's North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir urged the Council to bring about a real cease-fire in Al-Biqa'.

In an interview with the London *Al-Majallah*, Salah Khalaf rejected the Syrian "logic of subservience," which it regards as synonymous with alliance. He stressed the PLO's adherence to the principle of independent decisionmaking, including the right to appoint or to dismiss the "commander of a small unit." Responding to a question on Syrian involvement in the Fatah dispute, Khalaf asserted that the Syrians were showing "total partiality" with the dissidents. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, "strongly supports" Palestinian legitimacy and the PLO, he said.

Clashes between Fatah dissidents and loyalists continued intermittently in Al-Biqa' over the weekend, according to reports by Beirut radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The two sides had earlier concluded a "draft agreement" to evacuate Ba'labakk and they also exchanged prisoners, Beirut radio reported. The Soviet ambassador to Syria has unsuccessfully attempted to mediate between the dissidents and loyalists, Voice of Lebanon radio asserted. Meanwhile, in a Beirut press interview reported by Radio Monte Carlo, Fatah dissident leader Nimr Salih ruled out the possibility of reconciliation with Yasir 'Arafat and revealed that the dissidents soon will establish their own newspaper and radio station. A Baghdad Voice of PLO radio commentary predicted that the dissidents will not abide by the PCC resolutions because of their links with "intelligence organs" with which they have signed a "pledge" not to renege on their "conspiratorial move" regardless of the solution presented to resolve the Fatah dispute.

In a statement to *Al-Madinah* reported by SPA, PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad al-Yamani announced that the conciliation committee formed to resolve PLO-Syrian differences will go to Syria 13 August. The mission, the official stated, has four objectives: to maintain PLO unity; to end the Fatah fighting; to preserve Fatah unity; and to improve Palestinian-Syrian relations.

Israel

Ambassador to United States Me'ir Rosenne called the statement by Secretary of State George Shultz that the existing settlements on the West Bank should not be dismantled an "important political statement," Jerusalem radio reported.

Israel is selling military information and expertise to the PRC, which may be financing the deal by selling obsolete arms to Iraq, according to a report from London cited by *Ha'aretz*.

Egypt

Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, in an interview with *Akhbar al-Yawm* cited by MENA, asserted that despite proof of direct Libyan involvement in Chad, the upcoming Egyptian-U.S. exercises were not designed to "terrorize" Libya.

Libya-Chad

Chadian President Hissein Habre, whose death was announced earlier by JANA, is in Ndjamena, Paris radio's international service reported. A JANA report asserted that he left Faya-Largeau for the capital after learning of a coup plot against him led by his foreign minister, Idriss Miskine, and aided by the French ambassador. Meanwhile, a Libyan plane was shot down and the pilot captured in Faya-Largeau, a Chadian Embassy statement cited by Paris radio revealed. In another development, French Defense Minister Charles Hernu said France will not send Jaguar aircraft to northern Chad to help counter Libyan attacks, Paris radio reported. However, JANA later claimed that France had ordered Jaguar aircraft from Libreville to northern Chad. Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri also sent a "fully equipped battalion" to fight with Habre's forces, JANA announced.

The People's Foreign Liaison Bureau issued a statement carried by JANA that claimed that the arrival of U.S. AWACS and fighters in Sudan and Egypt is a "coverup" for the "occupation" of the Arab homeland and an excuse for aggression against

Libya. The Libyan people will not surrender a single inch of their territory, Tripoli radio said.

On the diplomatic front, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi cabled CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yuriy Andropov on the current situation, and a military delegation that includes the Air Force, Air Defense, and Navy chiefs of staff and the director of military industrialization left for the USSR, according to Tripoli radio and JANA reports. Al-Qadhdhafi cabled the UN Security Council and Arab leaders on U.S. military "provocations," Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland radio and JANA stated.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri urged Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi to convene an emergency Arab summit to discuss the current Palestinian crisis and Arab "interference" in Lebanon. In an open letter published in the London paper ***Ash-Sharq al-Awsat***, Numayri questioned the motives behind Klibi's "opposition" to convening such a summit and wondered if Syrian and Libyan pressure might have played a part. Meanwhile, the Arab league denied reports that it is frustrating calls for an emergency session, according to KUNA.

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Arab League Statement on Emergency Summit

PM061918 London Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat in Arabic 5 Aug 83 pp 1,2

[*Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat* Tunis Bureau report: "The Arab League Replies: We Did Not Abort Any Emergency Summit Because We Did Not Receive Request for It in the First Place"]

[Text] Tunis — The Arab League issued a statement commenting on a AFP report, citing Cairo's *Al-Akhbar*, regarding what was described as the Arab League General Secretariat's aborting a call for an emergency Arab summit.

An official spokesman at the Arab League explained the following:

1. Up to 4 August the Arab League has not received a new request for convening a full or partial Arab summit after the formal request received from the Moroccan Kingdom on 6 April 1983 for the convening of a full Arab summit.

The General Secretariat had then conveyed this request to all the Arab countries on the same day and the Secretary General and the Secretariat members were preparing to leave for Morocco and the Moroccan permanent delegation to the Arab League was informed of the date of the departure of the General Secretariat's delegation on 11 April 1983. But a memo was received by the General Secretariat requesting the postponent of the conference to a date to be fixed later.

2. The Arab League Charter does not authorize the Secretary General to convene an Arab summit, an Arab League Council meeting, or a joint Arab Defense Council meeting. Also it does not give him the right to object to the convening of any emergency session if this is approved by the majority of members. In order to deal with this situation, the new draft Arab League Charter, which has not yet been endorsed, provides for authorizing the Secretary General to call for an emergency session if he sees the need for it.

3. In dealing with the various critical Arab situations the Secretary General was always the first to take the initiative and to directly contact the Arab officials. He has carried out several Arab tours, the latest of which lasted 1 month. This is in addition to the consultations he holds with many personalities in all the Arab countries without exception.

4. The meeting of the committee on clearing the Arab atmosphere in Tunis on 21 July 1983 took place and the Secretary General's request. He was charged by the committee to use his good offices and in fact began to do so. The committee is to meet again shortly.

It is worth noting that the Secretary General's statement following the meeting on clearing the Arab atmosphere, in which he said that the next ordinary Arab summit will be held in Riyadh, came in the course of a press conference in which he recalled the date of the next summit which was fixed at the Fes summit.

5. The Secretary General, at the suggestion of some Arab states, addressed a message to King Hassan II in his capacity as chairman of the Arab seven-man committee, expressing the wish for convening a meeting of the committee in order to evaluate the outcome of its contacts and submit a report to the Arab leaders in order to consider a summit meeting of the seven Arab states concerned as a prelude to convening a full summit.

6. With regard to convening any emergency summit, the General Secretariat will exert every effort possible in order to ensure its success.

uf headlineFurther Reports on PLO Central Committee Meeting

Salah Khalaf Addresses Council

LD051133 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1002 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Tunis, 5 Aug (KUNA) -- Member of the Fatah Central Committee Salah Khalaf has stated that the pro-'Arafat leaders "will not go to Damascus to raise white flags, not even for the sake of the liberation of the entire occupied Arab territory, let alone Jerusalem." However, in his speech before the PLO Central Council meeting here last night, Salah Khalaf admitted that "the disruption of Syrian-Palestinian relations enabled the Zionist enemy to reach Beirut." He affirmed that the Fatah movement "still calls for the establishment of strategic relations with Syria." He reviewed the history of the contemporary Palestine revolution since its start in 1965 and expressed his astonishment at the fact that no one has asked about the real role of the Arab regimes, particularly neighboring Syria, during the ordeals through which the Palestinian revolution passed." He added that "all must realize that the firm line American policy has been pursuing since 1967 consists of nothing but many no's: no to the plo, no to the right of return, no to self-determination, and no to independent Palestinian existence." "These no's, he said, "were the main motives behind all attempts against the Palestinian revolution. As for all the negative things the United States attributes to the revolution, I tell brothers that even if the revolution was an angel, the United States would still fight it with these no's. That is why I say that he who strikes at the Palestinian revolution only revolves in the American orbit." He asked: "If there is so much wrong with the PLO, why is this American offensive being waged against it?"

Referring to what some of the Central Council members said about the current crisis within Fatah not being the first, Salah Khalaf said: "This morning I have listened to speeches claiming that the current crisis in Fatah is not new, and that there was a crisis in Fatah in 1978. I say to them: True, there was a crisis in 1978, and there was also one in 1980. There have been numerous crises. But nobody asked for any Arab country's help and matters remained internal. When our brothers ask for help from the Arab countries, there is Arab interference in the Palestinian arena." "The Palestinian's own decisionmaking process," he said, "is the only one responsible for all Palestinian resolutions and moves. I cannot understand how the Palestinians' independent national decisions can be an umbrella for anyone. Naturally, all this is happening. I say it openly to Syria, which told us in a message that the brothers here know, that it will crush any attempt to strike at any party that... [KUNA ellipses] but I wonder now. Where are the Syrian tanks and aircraft, and why did they not crush the group that insisted on shedding Palestinian blood? Do not forget, brothers, that it was the Syrian-Palestinian break that enabled the Zionist aggression to reach Beirut and that the United States considers the Palestinian revolution led by the PLO and its leadership to be its principal enemy." Salah Khalaf thanked the Palestinian organizations that showed concern for unity within Fatah. He added: "But, brothers, you must know that what has taken place was not a call for reform but an attempt at a military coup. You must know that the Arab regimes that speak of reform also live in glass houses. "I do not want my words to be misunderstood. I have not come here to talk and destroy Palestinian relations with Syria. But at our meetings we must always say the truth. I say to you that Syria can stop the fighting."

"Permit me, brothers," he said, "to add yet one more point: What do they want? Do they want to replace Yasir 'Arafat? If so, let them come and raise the matter before the PNC. If they succeed, fair enough — for this is the democratic oasis that we cherish in the Palestine revolution. But I will not permit any Arab regime — let alone a regime that has expelled 'Arafat — to try to detract from Yasir 'Arafat." "We will not permit any Arab regime," he added, "to detract from any Palestinain commander. I say to you that despite the expulsion of Abu 'Ammar and the information campaign being waged, Palestinian delegations have been going to and coming from Syria. This is because we have always called and continue to call for the establishment of strategic relations with Syria. We were surprised to see that all of us are rejected by Syria. Do they want us to go raising white flags? "I say to you: no, no, and a thousand no's. We will not do so — not even for the sake of the liberation of the entire Arab land, let alone Jerusalem. Strugglers do not raise white flags. Rather, they raise their heads high. "We brothers open our hearts to the brothers in the Al-Biqa' and Syria. We have not closed the doors. So far, all the intermediaries say that Syria does not want to meet with us until we solve our internal problems. What do they care about our problems? They are internal problems that concern us. Their insistence on this means that they are interfering in our internal affairs. Hence I say that no responsible Arab or Syrian official has the right to detract from the Palestinians, who have sacrificed and offered thousands of martyrs. The Palestinian people, who refused to surrender their flag to imperialism, will not permit any Arab leader to belittle them."

KUNA Cites Khalifah, Khalaf

LD051821 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Tunis, Aug 5 (KUNA) — The extraordinary sesion of the Palestine Central Council (PCC) currently underway in Tunis was extended into a third day Friday amidst continuing debate over the Fatah dispute and questions of P.L.O. policy and organization.

The PCC, a body grouping members of the National Council (PNC) ("parliament-in-exile"), the P.L.O. Executive Committee and the leaders of its constituent guerrilla organizations convened Wednesday under the chairmanship of PNC speaker Khalid Al-Fahum despite the absence of a pro-Syrian organization, Ahmad Jibril's "Popular Front-General Command."

The issue of relations between Syria and P.L.O. Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who also heads the Fatah movement, has dominated the last two days of discussions after the apparent failure of a six-member PNC committee to negotiate an end to the raging dispute within the movement or to secure a rapprochement between 'Arafat and the Syrian leadership.

'Arafat was expelled from Syria last June after a prolonged period of tension with the Syrian leadership.

Intense debate in the PCC ensued Thursday night on the subject between Muhammad Khalifah, representative of the Syrian-sponsored "As-Sa'iqa" organization and Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) of Fatah's Central Committee.

Khalifah, stressing that what was happening in Fatah was an internal dispute, criticized the Fatah leadership on two counts.

First, he said, some leaders were responsible for escalating the dispute by pretending that internal differences did not exist, thus "Arabizing and internationalizing" the dispute thereby allowing it to reach crisis levels.

Secondly, he accused "part of the Fatah leadership" of intentionally fabricating a Palestinian-Syrian dispute in order to cover up their shortcomings and responsibilities which had created internal opposition to them in the first place.

"We hear a lot about the Palestinian-Syrian crisis" he said "and I would like to know exactly what the problem is."

"The dispute", he added, "is not Palestinian-Syria, it is an internal Fatah one, involving only part of the Fatah leadership."

Responding to the comment, member of the Fatah Central Committee Salah Khalaf blamed Syria for the Fatah split, but stressed that Damascus can end the fighting between the two warring sides of Fatah.

Fatah co-founder and chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organizat (PLO) Yasir 'Arafat has accused Syria of supporting his opposers within Fatah who revolted against 'Arafat last May accusing him of too much moderation and negligence of armed struggle against Israel.

The official emphasized that the rift within Fatah was not due to calls for reform as claimed by the breakaways, but rather an attempt of a military coup.

Khalaf indicated 'Arafat's supporters "will not accept to go to Damascus hoisting white banners even if that was for the liberation of all occupied Arab territories...not only Jerusalem."

Himself an 'Arafat loyalist, Khalaf said Syria's insistence that the Palestinians should resolve their own differences before approaching Damascus "means intervention in our internal affairs."

Khalaf noted, however, that Fatah still calls for the restoration of strategic relations with Syria. "But we were surprised to see that Syria rejects all of us."

Meanwhile, he underlined that no Arab regime will be allowed to infringe on any Palestinian leader, in a direct condemnation of Syria's expulsion of 'Arafat in June.

Despite 'Arafat's expulsion and hostile Syrian campaigns, Palestinian delegations kept visiting Syria "because we are keen to maintain strategic relations with Damascus.... But do they want us to come raising white banners?" he went on.

Khalaf noted in the meantime, that the Syrian-Palestinian rift enabled the Israeli forces to reach Beirut last year.

He said he was surprised "because no one has ever questioned the role of Arab governments, particularly that of Syria, in all crises the Palestinian revolutions has went through," since its foundation in 1965.

Continuing his attack on Syria but less directly, Khalaf said "all those who strike at the Palestinian revolution are revolving in the American orbit."

He went on "everybody must know that the stable policy of the U.S. since 1967 includes rejection of the PLO, self-determination for the Palestinians and for independent Palestinian existence," adding these rejections are the root-cause of all attempts against the Palestinian revolution.

Council Closes; 'Arafat Speaks

NC061849 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] The PLO Central Council ended 3 days of meetings in the Tunisian capital last night. What has filtered through from these meetings is that the council decided to form a committee to supervise and follow up the cease-fire and another committee, to be formed today, to pursue a dialogue with Syria.

The brother commander in chief [Yasir 'Arafat] spoke yesterday, focusing on the need to establish positive relations with the brothers in Syria. He said: We and the Syrians are in the same trench, and our fate is the same. We must work to establish a common strategy. Brother Abu 'Ammar added: We extend our hands to Syria to settle our differences through a quiet and constructive dialogue.

Most of the speeches delivered in the council focused on the need to uphold the PLO as a sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian people and on the need to safeguard the independence of the Palestinian national decision making. They also affirmed the need to conduct a calm dialogue in order to arrive at a positive relationship with the brothers in Syria.

More on 'Arafat Speech

JN071815 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has affirmed that the United States is seeking to balkanize the region, which necessitates the omission of the PLO from the region's political map.

In his speech before the final session of the PLO Central Council [PCC] which met recently in Tunis, Abu 'Ammar added: It is for this reason that rabid and vicious conspiracies are being plotted against the PLO, the Palestinian revolution, and its backbone, the Fatah movement.

In his speech, Brother Abu 'Ammar reviewed the situation in Lebanon's north and Al-Biqa' and the serious situation resulting from the continuation of the clashes. He affirmed that the Palestinian is our responsibility and the responsibility of all the Arabs. He also affirmed that Palestinian blood should only be shed in confronting the Zionist enemy.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also reviewed the conditions of Palestinians in Lebanon, the pressures exerted on them by the Zionist enemy and its agents, and the grave difficulties facing the sons of our Palestinian people there. In this context, Brother Abu 'Ammar affirmed that the confrontation of the enemy and its agents will continue, that the Palestinian armed struggle will continue toward its defined objectives, and that the banner of struggle will eventually triumph.

Brother Abu 'Ammar praised the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Lebanese-Palestinian joint forces, which are carrying out a daily battle behind the Zionist enemy lines.

The brother commander in chief also reviewed the situation in the region affirming that the United States is seeking to balkanize the region, which principally necessitates the omission of the PLO from the region's political map.

Brother Abu 'Ammar touched on Syrian-Palestinian relations. He affirmed that the PLO and the Fatah movement open their arms to clear whatever blemishes Syrian-Palestinian relations. Brother Abu 'Ammar called for friendly relations with Syria [words indistinct].

The brother commander in chief called for a Syrian-Palestinian dialogue [words indistinct] dealing with the current and future horizons of the situation in the region and future Syrian-Palestinian relations. He called for the formation of a PCC subcommittee, by the PNC chairmanship and the PLO Executive Committee, to establish a deep dialogue with Syria and a frank and comprehensive inter-Palestinian dialogue on the various issues and problems.

Brother Abu 'Ammar added: I believe in this and I say it openly. I do not take into account my personal dignity because my dignity is the dignity of my homeland.

Regarding the designs in the region, Brother Abu 'Ammar indicated that there were clear schemes to partition Lebanon. He said that the United States, Israel, and those linked with them have already made some moves in this regard.

The commander in chief spoke about the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship. He affirmed that this relationship is based on what the PNC had approved at its 16th session that was held in Algiers. Brother Abu 'Ammar said that all the developments in this relationship were immediately submitted in detail to the PLO Executive Committee and were discussed extensively.

On the United States, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the United States sought before and during the battle of Beirut in 1982 to destroy the PLO politically and militarily. He said that, after failing to achieve this during the battle of Beirut, in which more than two thirds of the Israeli enemy army was used, the United States is currently trying every means to destroy and liquidate the organization. He said that the United States' methods are not confined to indirect military operations, but include a propaganda war and an extensive political move the aims to distort the image of the PLO and diminish the respect it acquired through its blood-drenched struggle throughout the previous years.

The brother commander in chief, Abu 'Ammar, praised the unity of the Palestinian people and the harmony and coordination among Palestinians everywhere; a unity which has astonished the friends more the foes. Brother Abu 'Ammar affirmed that this unity is a living example which is alone considered to be the bation on which all conspiracies will founder. He said: The PLO will manage to achieve this glorious unity of our people and will continue its struggle to liberate Palestine. The PLO will attain the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

PLO Central Council Communique

LD061956 Kuwait KUNA in English 1649 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Tunis, Aug 6 (KUNA) — The PLO Central Council Saturday issued its final communique at the end of its session which began on Wednesday and ended last night.

The communique reads as follows:

"The PLO Central Council held its first meeting after the Palestinian National Council's 16th session, under the chairmanship of PNC president Khalid al-Fahum, and attended by PLO Chairman 'Arafat.

"The meeting was marked by a spirit of responsibility and concern for national unity in the framework of the PLO, the Palestinian people's only legitimate representative.

"In the debates, which went on for three days, a high degree of democracy prevailed, as well as a determination to deal decisively with and overcome the problems facing the Palestinian revolution's course. The meeting achieved the following results:

"1. — The Central Council, after expressing great pride and appreciation for the unanimous position announced by the Palestinian masses in occupied Palestine in rallying around the PLO and its leadership and their adherence to Palestinian national unity, national identity and independent Palestinian national decision-making as the basic guarantee to protect the people's gains and continue the struggle to achieve the Palestinians' inalienable national rights, foremost of which are repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on their national soil,

"Affirms that this position of the Palestinian people also represents the bastion on which will founder all imperialist and zionist intrigues aimed at striking at the Palestinian people's unity and their unique representation.

"The council calls on the masses of the Palestinian people to strengthen their unity and solidarity, and develop their confrontation against the methods of violence, terrorism and Zionist colonial settlement expansion, and expresses admiration for the heroic struggle by the masses of the people in Al-Khalil, Bir Zeit, Nabulus, Jerusalem and all other towns, refugee camps and villages to confront the zionsit settler gangs, whom the Zionist military authorities and the terrorist Begin's government support, and the implementation of whose crimes they supervise.

"In this context, the Central Council affirms the important of carrying out the National Council's resolutions at its 16th session, on the establishment of a Palestinian patriotic front in occupied Palestine as an arm of the PLO, and offering all forms of support and backing for patriotic steadfastness in the occupied territories to foil plans to depopulate it, which the Zionists are trying to carry out. The council stresses the need to develop armed struggle against the Zionist occupation.

"2. — The Council discussed Syrian-Palestinian relations, and the developments that have occurred which do not serve the cause of national struggle against the common enemy. The Council expressed regret and great pain at the decision to ask PLO Executive Committee chairman 'Arafat to leave Syria.

"The council sees the necessity of solving all disagreements which have arisen so as to ensure support for the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative in their struggle to achieve the national aims of repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state, and to strengthen the unity of Arab patriotic forces in confronting the Zionist-Imperialist enemy and their agents.

"It also stresses the need for immediate dialogue to rebuild relations on foundations of co-operation in struggle including strengthening confrontation against plans aimed at imposing U.S. imperialist and Israeli domination on the whole region, particularly the Camp David agreement, the Reagan plan and the U.S.-Israeli agreement imposed on Lebanon.

"On this basis, the council decided to form a committee from its members to follow up this matter and help deal with Palestinian internal questions. The council expressed appreciation for the work of the six-member committee formed by the Executive Committee, and called for its work to continue.

"3.— In the name of the Palestinian masses inside and outside occupied Palestine, the council expresses concern and condemnation at the internecine fighting between comrades in arms in the Al-Biqa', calls on all parties concerned to stop these acts and condemns any quarter which tries to rekindle them.

"The council recommended that the Executive Committee form a military field committee to supervise the ceasefire, and called for a halt to all propaganda campaigns and adherence to a firm position that helps to eliminate disagreement and enable restoration of cohesion and achievement of positive solutions to the disagreements.

"4. — The council appreciates the escalation of heroic resistance in occupied Lebanese territory against the Zionist invasion, which reaffirms unity of Lebanese-Palestinian national struggle against the common enemy.

"The council feels that strengthening Syrian-patriotic Lebanese-Palestinian relations in these circumstances through which Lebanon is passing will be a real backing for the lebanese people's struggle for Lebanon's independence, unity, Arab character and sovereignty.

"The council affirms that it is the duty of all forces concerned for lebanon's unity and independence to oppose appropriately the agreement imposed on Lebanon by the Zionist occupation with U.S. backing.

"In this context, before all Lebanese patriotic forces, the council attaches value to the unification of their ranks and struggle in the framework of the National Salvation Front, and calls for concern for the situation of the Palestinian masses in Lebanon, and for the Executive Committee to take all measures to protect the security of the Palestinian people and interests from terrorism and harassment by fascist gangs and other groups and the Zionist occupation forces.

"The council asks the Lebanese Government to shoulder its responsibilities to prevent this situation continuing, and to carry out its commitments and undertakings to guarantee the Palestinian people's right and interests and ensure the political presence of the PLO and its social and cultural institutions.

"5. — The council expresses its grave concern at the harassment of Palestinians in some Arab countries, particularly regarding rights to employment and travel. It recommends that the Executive Committee deal with these urgent problems facing the people.

"6. — The council stresses its condemnation of the U.S. plan to dominate the Middle East, both by relying on its original base Israel, and through establishing military bases, stationing the Rapid Deployment Force and the U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement.

"This plan aims at eliminating Palestinian and Arab national rights through the Reagan plan by trying to abolish the PLO's role and the Palestinian people's national political identity and their rights to repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of their independent national state.

"This plan also aims, through the agreement they are trying to carry out in Lebanon, to subject that fraternal country to U.S.-Israeli domination and implement the partition conspiracy. Hence we consider it the prime duty of all Arab patriotic forces to confront this plan with determination and all their energies, so as to protect the Arab peoples' rights, national independence, development and progress.

"The council stresses the need to clarify the PLO's relations with all Arab patriotic and progressive forces.

"In this frame-work, strengthening relations of alliance with the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, non-aligned, African and Islamic countries and friendly forces in all fields is a real guarantee for the Arab national struggle against the U.S.-imperialist-Zionist assault against our peoples and rights.

"7. — The council recommends the Executive Committee to act immediately to carry out the political and organizational program and PNC resolutions in all fields, and draw up programs to implement this, and be concerned for the efficiency of operation of PLO institutions, and for supporting them so as to strengthen national unity on the basis of democratic discussion and reform in the Palestinian revolution's ranks and PLO institutions.

"The Central Council, concluding the work of its first session, stresses that Palestinian national unity inside and outside occupied Palestine, remains the basic pillar to protect the Palestinian people's struggle and revolution, and that the unity of the revolution's detachments and all patriotic forces in the framework of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative, is the slogan and guarantee for our struggle and its continuation until victory.

"The Central Council conveys greetings of struggle to our steadfast heroes in the Zionist occupation's prisons, particularly our heroes in the Ansar concentration camp."

(End text of resolutions)

Mediation Committee Briefed on PLO, Syrian Rifts

LD071133 Kuwait KUNA in English 1006 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Tunis, Aug 7 (KUNA) — Palestine National Council (Parliament-in-exile) speaker Khalid al-Fahum met before dawn Sunday members of the newly formed mediation committee assigned to patch up Syrian-Palestinian differences and resolve the internal fued within the mainstream commando movement Al Fatah between opponents and supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

The 18-member committee, formed following a joint meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC Secretariat, in the course of hectic Palestinian, Arab and non-aligned efforts to resolve the Palestinian-Syrian dispute and Al Fatah conflict.

A Palestinian source said Fahum reviewed with the committee the outcome of Mediation efforts launched by a six-man team which was formed earlier by the PLO executive leadership. He also considered efforts to be exerted by a newly formed military committee to monitor ceasefire between Al Fatah Rival wings.

The mediation committee groups Ibrahim Bakr, Yasir Amir,'Abd al-Khaliq Yaghmur, Majdi Abu Ramadan, As'ad 'Abd ar-Rahman, Shaykh Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, Muhammad Milhim, Fahd al-Qawasmi, Mrs Isam 'Abd al-Hadi, Bahjat Abu Gharbiyah, Sulayman an-Najar, 'Awni 'Awwad, Rashdi Shahin, Isma'il Isma'il, 'Abd al-Aziz Saqr,'Abd al-Majid Hannun, Mustafa Milhim and 'Adnan Bardah.

The 81-member Palestine Central Council (PCC) which serves as a link between the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC called in a final statement released here Saturday at the end of three-day session for immediate dialogue between the PLO and Syria with the aim of restructuring Palestinian-Syrian relations on a militant cooperation basis.

SPA: PLO Delegation To Visit Damascus 13 Aug

LD072259 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2155 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Riyadh, 7 Aug (SPA) — Abu Mahir al-Yamani, PLO Executive Committee member and member of the Palestinian six-man mediation committee said that the committee formed by the Palestinian Central Council at the conclusion of its meetings the day before yesterday in Tunis to resolve Palestinian-Syrian and inter-Palestinian differences, will go to Damascus next Saturday [13 August] to assume the mission entrusted to it by the council.

In a statement to *Al-Madinah*, due to be published tomorrow, Abu Mahir al-Yamani said that the mission of this committee, consisting of 18 members, headed by lawyer Ibrahim al-Bakr, seeks four objectives: to maintain PLO unity; end the fighting; preserve the unity of the Fatah movement; and improve Palestinian-Syrian relations.

The Palestinian official said that there will be full coordination between this committee and the Palestinian six-man mediation committee. They will both cooperate to bring back Palestinian unity within the framework of the Fatah organization, and improve Palestinian-Syrian relations.

Abu Mahir al-Yamani expressed great hope in the success of the two committees in fulfilling their tasks.

PLO Executive Committee Discusses PCC Meetings

GF071948 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in Tunis yesterday under Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. Brother Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman,attended the meeting.

During the meeting, the conferees discussed the outcome of the meetings of the PLO Central Council, its final statement, some PLO organizational issues and the situation inthe Palestinian arena and the PLO's relations with Arab and foreign countries.

Palestinians Reach Draft Agreement in Al-Biqa'

NC051221 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] In an important step that can be regarded as a decisive turning point toward changing the prevailing situation in the Al-Biqa', a draft agreement was reached today between Yasir 'Arafat's loyalists and Fatah dissidents.

Reports received from Ba'labakk indicate that the draft agreement includes the following four points: Withdrawing the armed men from residential areas in the city; closing down all Palestinian offices; keeping a distance between 10 and 15 km from the city; and preventing the setting up of armed roadblocks on main and secondary roads and international highways.

The reports add that another meeting will be held between the two sides tonight to discuss ways of implementing the draft agreement and subsequently to abolish the military preparations and the concentrations in the field. The first result of the draft agreement was that 54 POW's were exchanged between the two sides.

Representatives of 'Arafat, Sa'id Musa To Meet

GF061050 Doha QNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 6 Aug (QNA) — A Palestinian source stated here today that a meeting will be held in Damascus today between representatives of Yasir 'Arafat loyalists and Abu Musa's loyalists to study the means of executing the agreement which was reached yesterday and which called for the withdrawal of armed men from residential areas in the city of Ba'labakk to 10 km from it, the closure of all Palestinian offices in that city, and end the setting up armed barricades on the main and minor roads.

On the other hand, the source said the exchange of POW's and detainees by the two parties began yesterday and will continue today. He said the mutinous forces released 12 POW's from 'Arafat's loyalists while the Fatah forces released 35 elements from the dissident forces.

The source said the release of the rest of the detainees of the two parties will take place today.

Soviet Envoy Meets With Fatah Factions

NC070505 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqa' have indicated that the Soviet ambassador to Damascus arrived in Shtawrah via the military road in Al-Masna. He held a series of meetings with Abu Musa [Said Musa Muragha] and his aides, with Arafat's representative Diyab al-Atrash attending, in a bid to mend the Palestinian rift upon the request of the Soviet leadership. The reports added that the Shtawrah meeting is the fourth of its kind. The Soviet ambassador has so far not achieved any results.

Media Campaign Against Dissidents, Syria To Stop

JN081018 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] has announced that the Fatah movement will stop its media campaign against the Fatah opposition wing and against Syria. He said this initiative is aimed to facilitate the tasks of the reconciliation committee set up 2 days ago during the PLO Central Council deliberations.

Nimr Salih Demands 'Arafat's Resignation

JN061528 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], one of the Fatah leaders who oppose Yasir 'Arafat, said in a statement to the magazine *Ash-Shira'* that he refuses to meet with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat unless the demands of the Fatah opposition movement are realized. He said 'Arafat is unable to meet these demands because of his commitments to the U.S. Administration. He pointed out that the best service that can be rendered by 'Arafat to the Palestinian revolution is his resignation, because he cannot discard his commitments. The Palestinians, he said, are not prepared to abide by these commitments.

Abu Salih also said that those who harm the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nationalist forces must be put on trial because of their political line.

Jordan, Syria Reportedly Seeking Rapprochement

PM051405 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 6-12 Aug 83 pp 8,9

[From "*Al-Majallah* Correspondents" feature]

[Text] *Al-Majallah* has learned from well informed Arab diplomatic sources that secret contacts and movements are taking place between Syria and Jordan with the aim of bringing about rapprochement between the two countries after a period of strained relations. The sources said that several personalities and parliamentary delegations from both countries recently exchanged secret visits and held meetings with officials in Amman and Damascus which were shrouded in secrecy.

The sources revealed to *Al-Majallah* that a senior Jordanian official "close" to King Husayn visited Damascus last Sunday and met with a senior Syrian military official close to President Hafiz al-Asad. Talks dealt with opening a new chapter in relations between the two countries.

Observers in Damascus have noted that the Syrian media campaign against Jordan and King Husayn recently suddenly stopped and that the Syrian media even began reporting some of King Husayn's activities and movements.

The sources said that Arab efforts were behind this "rapprochement" and that contacts between Damascus and Amman have led to bringing views closer on several issues. The sources said that there are still two obstacles to any serious Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement:

The first concerns the activities of elements hostile to the Syrian regime which Damascus says are operating from Jordan.

The second is that Jordan wants Syria to adopt a clear and frank stand on the Gulf war and relations with Iran.

It is clear that Jordan does not want its rapprochement with Syria to be at the expense of its strong relations with Iraq and its support for it in the war with Iran.

The sources have revealed to *Al-Majallah* that an understanding has been reached between Syria and Jordan that neither country will act unilaterally in the conflict with Israel but rather would coordinate their efforts in this regard.

Within this context, there is a great possibility that a Cabinet reshuffle will take place in Jordan in which the prime ministership will be assigned to an eminent personality who will seek to achieve rapprochement with Damascus.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Council Meeting Postponed Until 24 August
GF051102 Doha QNA in Arabic 0814 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 5 Aug (QNA) — It was reported here today that it has been decided to postpone the GCC ministerial council's At-Ta'if meeting until 24 August instead of 22 August, upon a request made by the Sultanate of Oman.

Today's issue of the UAE newspaper *Al-Ittihad* said the UAE Foreign Ministry has informed the GCC Secretariat of its approval of the postponment request.

BAHRAIN

Prime Minister Receives GCC's Bisharah 6 Aug
GF061044 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Manama, 6 Aug (WAKH) — Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah received here today GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah, who is currently visiting Manama.

Bisharah briefed the Bahraini prime minister on the latest developments which concern the GCC and on the GCC Secretariat's upcoming activities during September and October within the framework of preparations for holding the fourth session of the GCC Supreme Council. The audience was attended by Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah.

KUWAIT

Al-Qadhdhafi Cable on U.S. War Games Received
LD071156 Kuwait KUNA in English 1100 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 7 (KUNA) — The ruler of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir As-Sabah Sunday received a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi reportedly dealing with maneuvers the U.S. is planning to carry out in Egypt, Somalia, Sudan and Oman jointly with forces of the respective states.

It was announced Saturday that Al-Qadhdhafi had cabled Arab leaders warning them against the war games the U.S. intends to carry out in the Middle East area saying the maneuvers are but foreign interference in internal affairs of the Arab world and may lead to foreign occupation of [word indistinct] lands.

Foreign Affairs Minister Departs for Saudi Arabia
LD080736 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0708 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Kuwait 8 Aug (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, left here this morning heading for At-Ta'if on a short visit.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told KUNA that he carrys a message from the amir of Kuwait to the Saudi monarch, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, pertaining to bilateral relations and the Arab situation in general.

Prime Minister Receives Sudanese Message
LD080851 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Aug (KUNA)— His Highness the heir apparent and chairman of the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, has received a message from the first vice president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib.

The message was delivered by the Sudanese ambassador to Kuwait during his meeting with Shaykh Sa'ad today at the Council of Ministers' office.

The contents of the message were not revealed.

AL-HADAF on McFarlane's Task in Middle East
GF061812 Kuwait Al-Hadaf in Arabic 5 Aug 83 P 1

[Text] Beirut — Informed diplomatic circles here have told *Al-Hadaf that the strategic task of Robert McFarlane, new U.S.* presidential envoy to the Middle East, is to resolve the possibility of conflict between Washington and Moscow by separating the Syrian and Israeli troops in Al-Biqa' area and by making possible the Israeli withdrawal toward the southwest of the Al-Biqa'valley in return for a similar Syrian withdrawal to the north. These circles said that the Syrians welcome this step in view of their continuous call that Washington must understand to their position as a sole direct and basic party instead of holding bilateral negotiations with the Lebanese.

The Syrian wish is aimed at making the United States full partner in everything that is related to the indirect negotiations with Israel on the issue of withdrawing all foreign troops from Lebanon. These sources affirmed at the same time that the U.S. side is no less enthusiastic than the Syrian side because the situation in the region makes it difficult to deal with the major factors of the struggle on the basis of a confrontation between Washington and Moscow in Al-Biqa' through the strategic armies of Syria and Israel.

These sources expect a possible relaxation by the end of this month, because a compromise to settle the Syrian-Israeli conflict will contain various factors, foremost of which are the Syrian and Israeli decisions regarding the Palestinian presence in the north and the Falangist military presence, with which Israel has already begun to deal. These sources do not fear any danger in the future and they do not expect any obstacles that may hinder the progress of the general program set for Lebanon, because the United States which is capable of paying the Israeli bills is also capable of paying the other bills.

The diplomatic sources in Beirut expect that the U.S. envoy will collect a number of points to present to President Reagan on the progress which has been achieved not only at the level of regional settlements, but also at the level of a Soviet-U.S. understanding which will include many issues that are wellknown now.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Receives Kuwaiti Counterpart

LD081014 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0952 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] At-Ta'if, 8 Aug (SPA) — The Kuwait deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, arrived this morning in At-Ta'if on a visit to the Kingdom.

He was received on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, and a number of high-ranking officials.

Riyadh Views Al-Asad-McFarlane Talks on Lebanon

LD072343 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Husayn al-Askari commentary]

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad today received the American envoy Robert McFarlane to discuss the withdrawl process of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon.

McFarlane has been no luckier than American Secretary of State Shultz, when he visited Damascus last month. This is the main conclusion of the Syrian information media in their assessment of the American envoy's mission in the Syrian capital. From this conclusion it seems difficult to speak about the failure or success of the American envoy's mission, a mission that seems extremely difficult not only because it is complicated, but because its difficulty stems basically from the attempt of the United States to mix the possible and the impossible. This is the difficulty when it comes to seeking a formula on an agreement for ending the Israeli occupation of Lebanon.

Syria is anxious to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, but it poses as a condition that Israel also withdraw its forces, because the reason for the Syrian forces being in Lebanon is completely different from that of the Israeli forces — they came as an invader, to destroy it, its land and people, with absolutely unreasonable and unacceptable excuses.

The United States seeks to secure Syria's acquiescence to the withdrawal within the context of what Washington sees as an attempt to put an end to any foreign military presence in Lebanon. But the American concept puts the Israeli and Syrian presence at the same level, yet there must be a distinction between the conditions for the Syrian military presence in Lebanon and the Israeli invasion. Hence the difference of views between Syria and the United States.

In the absence of a clear truth, the point at issue is not the withdrawal or not of Syria, as long as Israel does not want to link withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon with that of the Syrian forces. Lebanon never asked Israel to invade its territory or to act to secure the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon.

In order to reach a rallying point, any side seeking to ensure the withdrawal of non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon must take into account what Israel wants to gain from its invasion of Lebanon, even if this leads to further complicating matters, as the case is now because of Israeli obduracy and insistence on not dealing with facts. [sentence as heard]

UAE

President Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi

GF071040 Doha QNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Aug (QNA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan has received a written message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi dealing with current Arab developments and bilateral relations.

The message was conveyed by Ramadan Bashir al-Farjani, acting representative of the Libyan People's Bureau in the UAE, during an audience with Shaykh Zayid today.

President Receives Iranian Majlis Member

GF071946 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1923 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 Aug (WAKH) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received here this evening Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi (Ghafari), member of the Iranian Islamic Majlis. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, representative of the ruler in the eastern region and chairman of the board of directors of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company; Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE president's office; Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources; and Mahmud Sadat Madar-Shahi, Ianian ambassador to the UAE.

PDRY

Chairman Sends Cable to Libyan Leader

GF071630 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Cable sent by PDRY Chairman 'ali Nasir Muhammad to Libyan Leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi — date not given]

[Text] We are following the news on the escalation of the hostile and provocative U.S. moves against the Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah with deep concern. The U.S. fleets and war planes are crossing and violating Libyan territorial waters and airspace, thus contravening international laws and expressing their hostile intentions which intend to prepare for a treacherous aggression against the Libyan revolution in an attempt to force the fraternal Libyan people to change their revolutionary stance against the imperialism and Zionism.

Those hostile acts which coincide with the provocative Rapid

Deployment Force maneuvers on some Arab countries' territories is a new step in the imperialist attacks and conspiracies against the Arab national liberation movement, a serious threat to the security, stability and progress of all the Arab peoples and is a matter which requires more steadfastnes and confrontation against all the features of the hostile imperialist-Zionist activities.

We, the PDRY party, people, and government reaffirm our unlimited support for the fraternal Libyan people in confronting the U.S. provocations and moves and in protecting their territorial lands and waters and denounce the U.S. imperialist circles for carrying out such hostile practices. We call on the Arab countries and peoples and all the liberation and peace powers in the world to support the fraternal Libyan peoples and eliminate the aggressive intentions of U.S. imperialism.

YAR

PDRY Minister Arrives With Message for President

GF051313 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Brother 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, PDRY minister of state for Cabinet affairs, arrived in San'a' this afternoon on a visit to the capital, during which he will convey a message from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and chairman of the General People's Congress, from his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the northern part of the homeland. The message deals with issues concerning our Yemeni people, especially the progress of the unification efforts.

He was received by Brother Salim (al-Shafi'i), adviser to the president of the republic for unification affairs.

President Receives Message

GF062020 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Brother Col 'ali 'abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of Armed Forces, and secretary geenral of the General People's Congress, received at his office at 1900 today Brother 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, PDRY minister of state for cabinet affairs, who conveyed to the brother leader president and secretary general of the General People's Congress a verbal message from his brother, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland, dealing with the steps of unifying the two Yemens and the arrangements for convening the session of the Yemeni Council which is scheduled to be held in San'a' this month.

The meeting was attended by Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, vice president and member of the Standing Committee; and Brother Husayn (ad-Dafi'), adviser to the president of the republic for unification affairs and member of the Standing Committee.

Meetings of Yemeni Council Secretariat Begin 6 Aug

GF061810 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Meetings of the Yemeni Council Secretariat began in San'a' this morning under the chairmanship of Brothers 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, alternate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of state for cabinet affairs; and Husayn (ad-Dafi'), adviser to the YAR president for unification affairs. The meeting was also attended by the members of the secretariat in the two Yemens.

San'a' Radio said this afternoon that today's session reviewed the achievements of the various unity committees during the past period which will presented to the meetings of the Yemeni Council to be be held under the chairmanship of Brothers 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The meeting also discussed the draft agenda of the council and the final formula of the report of the Yemeni Council Secretariat which will be presented to the council.

San'a' Radio said that the committee will continue its meetings tomorrow morning to complete the discussion of the remainder of issues included on its agenda.

Meetings Conclude 7 August

GF071824 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The 2-day meetings of the Yemeni Council Secretariat ended in San'a' today. They were chaired by Brother Husayn ad-Daf'i, the president' adviser for unification affairs and member of the Standing Committee, and Brother 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, minister of state for cabinet affairs in the southern part of the homeland.

A press statement was issued following the session's meetings. Following is the text of this statement:

The Yemeni Council Secretariat held its fourth session 5-7 August, 1983 in San'a', the capital of the Yemeni unification, in a fraternal atmosphere and in a sense of responsibility toward our Yemeni people's causes and attempts to reachieve the unification of their homeland. The secretariat prepared the draft agenda for the Yemeni Council which will hold its first session in San'a' in mid-August in view of the resolutions of the administrative committee and unification committees. It will study the means of carrying out the tasks of these committees which have not yet completed their tasks within the framework of the unification attempts made by the leaderships of the two parts of the homeland and for achieving more progress in the service and fulfilment of our Yemeni people's aspirations.

Cairo Views U.S. Envoy Changes in Mideast

NC051446 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary]

[Text] Whether the appointment of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Veliotes as U.S. ambassador to Cairo was made at U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' request or at the request of U.S. presidential national security adviser William Clark as part of his attempts to exercise full control over foreign policy, we welcome the new ambassador. Mr Veliotes represents a country of many people with whom the Egyptian people have close bonds of friendship and cooperation due to Veliotes' role thus far in formulating U.S. Middle East policy on the basis of full participation and responsibility in the efforts exerted to realize comprehensive peace in the area.

Despite Shultz' announcement that these changes do not mean any change in U.S. policy toward the Middle East, we find something that might create concern or perhaps worry. Some observers believe that Veliotes' renunciation of his previous role in the area might mean a renunciation of the policies which he played a major role in pushing forward, such as Reagan's plan. Another thing that might create concern is that the changes in the posts of U.S. diplomats in the area, such as the appointment of Robert McFarlane to succeed Philip Habib as new special envoy to the Middle East, coincide with the U.S. veto against the denunciation of the Israeli massacre in Al-Khalil in the occupied West Bank. The U.S. representative at the UN Security Council tried to justify the U.S. veto by saying that the Al-Khalil incident was preceded by other actions of violence. He was referring to the murder of a Jewish student in the city's market. He forgot, or tried to forget,the original issue together with the previous massacres of Sabra and Shatila and Dayr Yasin.

What is taking place in Al-Khalil is actually a step toward the Judaization that started with the dismissal of acting municipality chairman of the city Mustafa an-Natshah and was followed by the dismissal of the previous Palestinian municipality chairman Fahd al-Qawasimah. These are steps that comply with a declared Israeli plan entitled: "Settlement of 1 Million Jews in the West Bank Within the Framework of Settling 6 Million Jews in Israel by the year 2000."

While affirming our appreciation of the importance of the responsible U.S. role for reaching a just solution of the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue, we refer with some concern to what is being said by some people — that the U.S. Administration is putting the Lebanese issue and the Middle East problem as a whole in a secondary place among its interests vis-a-vis curbing arms and the Central American issues.

It is not our business to interfere in the arrangement of the U.S. Administration's interests toward international problems, but we fear what is being said by others. They are saying that this administration has become convinced that there is no hope for the success of our issue in the near future; this is a matter which can be useful in the upcoming U.S. presidential campaign. We consequently fear that the rights of the people in our area and human rights might be lost as the successive changes of U.S. diplomats in the area occur, rendering the defense of these rights impossible.

Mubarak Meets Romanian Defense Minister 8 Aug

NC081039 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1022 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received Romanian Defense Minister Lieutenant General Constantin Olteanu, who is currently visiting Egypt within the framework of consolidating cooperation between both countries. The meeting was attended by the Romanian ambassador in Cairo.

The visit of the Romanian defense minister comes in the wake of the 5-day visit paid to Romania early this month by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din.

The Romanian defense minister and his accompanying military delegation are due to leave Cairo after the end of their talks tomorrow, Tuesday.

Mubarak on Romanian's Visit, Chad, Maneuvers

NC081134 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1111 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 8 Aug (MENA) — Following his 30-minute meeting with the Romanian defense minister, President Mubarak told reporters that the Romanian minister's visit to Egypt and Prime Minister Muhyi ad-Din's visit to Romania come within the context of close cooperation between the two countries. The president added that the defense minister's visit was scheduled some time ago and that cooperation between the two countries is constant.

Answering a question on Chadian events and the intervention of some superpowers there, as well as Egypt's interest in reaching a settlement in Chad, the president said: We do not intervene; rather we give advice and we never fight our neighbors.

The president added: With regard to attempts to relate the coming U.S.-Egyptian maneuvers to possible Egyptian intervention in Chad, there is no relationship. The maneuvers simply are to our advantage, and they are also useful as training. We are ready to conduct joint maneuvers with any country in the world.

'Ali on Egyptian-U.S. Maneuvers, Other Topics

NC052219 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2135 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Cairo, 5 Aug (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has affirmed that the joint Egyptian-U.S. exercises had been scheduled long time ago and were announced several weeks ago. He also affirmed that the exercises are not designed to terrorize Libya, although all available indications prove it has intervened directly and through the use of its forces in the fighting in Chad.

In an interview which will be published by the newspaper *Akhbar al-Yawm* on 6 August, 'Ali said that the joint Egyptian-U.S. exercises are very useful in raising Egypt's combat capabilities.

They also give the unit commanders better knowledge about what is new in the area of war and combat.

'Ali pointed out that there is a specific Egyptian-U.S. interest in protecting all the Arab and Islamic states which may sometimes find that there is a threat against them.

'Ali affirmed that the Egyptian-U.S. maneuvers, which will be conducted within a few days, are aimed at raising the capability of the Egyptian Armed Forces and at giving them the opportunity to benefit from and get acquainted with the most advanced combat methods.

Referring to the Palestinian issue, 'Ali reaffirmed Egypt's support for the Palestinian legitimacy within the Fatah movement. He said Egypt has warned against the serious effects of this dispute on the organization, its leadership, its legitimacy, and on the Palestinian struggle on the local, Arab, and international levels.

Referring to the Gulf war, 'Ali affirmed that Egypt is against any operations to destroy the economic resources and oil wealth of the two sides. He pointed out in this regard that the world will not permit any regional or international power to block the Strait of Hormuz, through which a large quantity of oil passes to the Western world. 'Ali added, in reply to a question, that Iran will not be able to score a major success on any axis of the frontline, and by trying to carry out a war of attrition against Iraq, it is weakening itself, too.

He pointed out that Egypt is following the situation with interest while providing Iraq with needed equipment and ammunition to enable it to defend its territory and the Gulf area.

The deputy prime minister affirmed that the Iraqi-Iranian conflict will not stop until the Iranian leadership realizes the futility of the continuation of the war and that it will not achieve military or political aims in hitting Iraq, which must continue to develop its own military capabilities to defend its territory. At the same time, 'Ali said that mediation efforts must be made between Iraq and Iran to achieve stability and peace in the area and to foil any chance for foreign interference in the affairs of the region.

Referring to the Lebanese issue, Foreign Minister 'Ali said that the Lebanese equation is multisided with conflicting objectives. He went on to amplify, in reply to a question, that it includes local sides, local-regional sides, and international sides. Striking a balance among these sides in order to achieve the Lebanese interest is a very difficult task and requires extreme shrewdness.

He affirmed that several sides are to blame for the lack of movement in the situation. These include Israel because of its intransigence and insistence on realizing the maximum that can be achieved for its people without consideration of the security needs of the other sides. This has caused a counterreaction and the agreement has become a target of attack. He added that on the other hand, there is exaggeration in the expectations of the United States with regard to the possibility of implementing the agreement. Furthermore, Syria will be making the same mistake Israel did by adopting a stand of either all or nothing.

With regard to Egyptian-Syrian contacts, 'Ali said that Egypt believes that dialogue with Arab brothers is always useful and required.

Referring to the mission of the new U.S. envoy, Robert McFarlane, 'Ali said that it would be unrealistic to cast doubt about a mission which is still in its first stages. He said it is difficult to say that this mission will succeed or fail before it is completed. He pointed out that the final evaluation of any mission does not take place until it is over and until its results are measured and analyzed; then a judgment can be made.

He added: There is no doubt that the mission of former envoy Philip Habib reached — in terms of exploring the positions of all sides — a stage on which new policies can be formulated to solve the problem.

In reply to a question, 'Ali welcomed any Arab rapprochement toward a common understanding to confront the dangers and challenges facing the region.

He affirmed that Egypt is against the policy of axes. He expressed the belief that the present state of division prevailing in the Arab world clearly shows the dangers which the Arabs face as a result of preoccupation with the establishment of such new axes.

Concluding his interview, 'Ali affirmed that Egypt is trying assiduously to contribute to the containment of the conflict in Chad as an internal conflict and that it supports the legitimate government of Hissein Habre. He affirmed that what is happening in Chad today is very serious and could affect many African states, which could face similar circumstances.

'Terrorist Plot' Reportedly Linked to Iran

PM071410 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 6-9 Aug pp 8, 9

[From the "*Al-Majallah* Correspondents" feature]

[Text] Is Iran behind the "terrorist plot" against the Egyptian regime which President Husni Mubarak revealed recently? According to Cairo sources, a preliminary investigation by the Higher State Security Prosecution into members of the "Islamic Liberation Party" which was uncovered recently has shown that there was contact between members of this organization and Iranian religious leaders. It was also shown that meetings have been held between the two sides in Europe. Members of the party who were arrested were found to possess recordings of Ayatollah Khomeyni's speeches. Investigation has also shown that there is contact between party members and Iranians residing in an Arab country.

MAY Reveals 'New Secrets'

PM071408 Cairo May in Arabic 1 Aug 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Indefiniite Imprisonment of 60 Members of Liberation Party; Party Leadership in Europe Aims To Topple Islamic Regimes"]

[Text] *May* this week reveals new secrets about the clandestine organization known as the Islamic Liberation Party, 60 of whose members have been arrested by security authorities. The State Security Prosecution is continuing its investigation of the defendants, who have made detailed confessions. The prosecution decided to imprison them indefinitely under clause No 290 entitled "State Security."

It has become evident from the conspirators' confessions that the organization does not believe in nationalism and indeed fights it. Its aim was to take over power in the entire Islamic world after the conspirators succeeded in taking over power in Egypt, the most important state in the Islamic world.

The party is financed in foreign countries; it has grown in European countries and its headquarters is in Austria. It is led by a suspect Palestinian. The party includes students in the engineering college, university teachers, graduates, medical college students, a pharmacist, a teacher, a librarian, and a doctor. A number of the suspects were arrested in Al-Mahallah. The party's activities have also spread to Cairo, Al-Jizah, Al-Qalyubiyah, Al-Gharbiyah, Al-Minya, and Asyut Provinces.

Security organs have obtained full information regarding the party leaders residing in Europe, their way of attracting young people, and the amounts of money received by party members from abroad.

It transpires that second in command after the Palestinian who leads the party organizations in Europe is an Egyptian doctor of chemistry living in Vienna. Another Palestinian called Abu Lihyah, a doctor of electronics, leads the organization in West Germany.

Despite the fact that the party ostensibly adopts a strict religious attitude, it allows the circulation of sex photographs, the kissing of foreign girls, and smoking, but it does not allow its members to grow beards.

Further Materials on Military Activities

Communique No 1,175

JN041735 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 4 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Aug (INA) — Iraq has stated that its forces have been waging a fierce battle since last night to repulse an Iranian force which tried to approach our forward units positions in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector. A military communique issued here today by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command stated that in this battle, during which all weapons were used, Iraqi forces succeeded in inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in life and equipment. The communique said that the Iraqi forces killed 74 and wounded many enemy elements in the central sector and destroyed 6 tanks, 7 vehicles, 2 excavators, 1 personnel carrier, and 1 106-mm gun.

the Communique also stated that Iraqi aircraft today carried out 130 combat missions. Iraqi helicopters participated in these missions, carrying out intensive, concentrated raids against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and units in the northern and central sectors, scoring direct and effective hits and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. All our aircraft returned safely to base.

The communique stated that more groups of Iranian soldiers sought refuge with the Iraqi units in the Maysan sector and were evacuated to the rear. The communique said that the Iranian forces sustained five killed, four of whom were in the northern sector, many were captured, one vehicle was destroyed, and the other east of Basra [as received], and one stockpile of hardware was destroyed. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,175 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

As long as the rulers in Iran continue to be intransigent and stupid and continue to encroach on lofty Iraq's borders and harm the security and independence of its sons, they will meet strong knights protecting the soil of the homeland and its sacred values with courage, honor, and intrepidity. The results of the activities in the operational theaters yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Last night and this morning, an enemy force tried to approach the positions of some of our forward units in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our valiant units confronted the enemy force and clashed with it in a fierce battle in which all weapons were used. Our units inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment and taught the enemy a new lesson in courage and intrepidity which will be added to the lessons which the enemy was taught previously. The battle was still raging at the time this communique was issued. One of our forward units succeeded in killing four enemy elements, capturing several others, and destroying one vehicle in another area of the same sector.

2. Our forward units struck enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions east of Zurbatiyah in the central sector of the battlefield. Our units killed 74, wounded many, and destroyed 6 tanks, 7 vehicles, 2 excavators, 1 personnel carrier, and 1 106-mm gun.

3. All day today, our valiant aircraft carried out intensive and concentrated raids against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and units in the northern and central sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits and inflicting heavy losses on the enemy's tanks and troop concentrations. Our valiant pilots saw columns of smoke billowing from the hit and destroyed enemy positions, military hardware, and weapons. Our aircraft carried out a total of 130 combat missions today. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. Our valiant helicopters all day today carried out intensive and effective raids against enemy positions and units in the northern and central sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits and inflicting more heavy losses on the enemy's troop concentrations, tanks, and military hardware. All our helicotpers returned safely to base, praise be to God, after carrying out their successful combat missions.

5. More groups of Iranian soldiers, escaping from the regime of tyranny and oppression in Tehran, sought refuge with our forward units in the Maysan sector and were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. One was killed and one stockpile of hardware was destroyed east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 August 1983

Iraqis in Full Control

JN050642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0622 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Aug (INA) — The staff major general commanding the Iraqi I Army Corps has asserted that his forces are in complete control of the situation in all combat areas of the northern sector of the war front. In a press statement here today, the commander said that his corps units are completely controlling the Hajj 'Umran area, which the Iranians say they have reached.

At dawn yesterday, an Iranian forcee approached Iraqi units in the Hajj 'Umran area. Iraqi units confronted them, inflicting heavy losses. An Iraqi military communique said last night that battles were still raging.

The commander of the I Army Corps stressed that his units are stationed on their assigned axes and are extending their control over the entire area.

Israeli-Made Arms Captured

JN050800 Baghdad INA in Rabic 0655 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Aug (INA) — A local press reporter said he saw Israeli-made weapons among the immense quantity of arms captured by the Iraqi forces following the defeat of the Iranian offensive against Zurbatiyah the day before yesterday. In a dispatch today, the reporter said that the Israeli-made weapons include mines, light weapons, and antiarmor guns.

The reporter also said that the II Iraqi Army Corps units in this area have begun burying the dead Iranians in accordance with Islamic teachings. The burying process, he added, is continuous because of the great number of dead enemy soldier. Thousands of enemy corpses are still littering the battlefield, forming a barrier separating the forces of the two sides.

Iraqi military communiques issued earlier this week said that in their attack against Zurbatiyah the Iranian forces lost 12,824 soldiers killed.

Communique No 1,176

JN051700 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1610 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,176 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 August 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

1. Once again, the henchmen of the charlatan have proved their eagerness to implement the designs of their masters and their demented old man to commit aggression against Iraqi soil as an expression of the expansionist aims which were declared by Khomeyni when he assumed power in Iran.

The army of the charlatan has attacked the northern part of the country in the Hajj 'Umran area with (Kardahmand) Mountain as the target, as was the case in the past. Fierce battles raged on the lofty mountain. As a result of these battles, the enemy was able to occupy vantage point [ar-raqim] No 2,519 while our valiant forces continue to control the adjacent vantage points and the slopes of the mountain.

Let the charlatan and his army of aggression know that the mountains that swallowed up his henchmen in the past will swallow them once again. The Rayat and Hajj 'Umran mountains will be a big graveyard for the aggressors.

God is great; glory and pride to our great people and brave Army. Shame and ignominy to the suspect expansionsts and their lackeys, the sons of the traitors, the agents to the foreigner.

2. Our valiant forward units struck enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our units' positions east of Zurbatiyah in the central sector of the battlefield with their weapons, killing and wounding many and destroying 12 personnel carriers, 3 vehicles, 1 TOW missile launcher, 3 excavators, 4 hardware stockpiles, and 1 infantry position.

3. Our daring fighter aircraft all day today attacked enemy units and troop concentrations in the areas opposite our forward units' positions in the Hajj 'Umran area and enemy troop concentrations and reinforcements deep inside enemy territory in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our daring fighter aircraft scored direct and effective hits, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy's tanks, equipment, and military hardware. Our fighter aircraft carried out 54 combat missions today. All our fighter aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

4. The valiant eagles in our helicopters all day today continued their daring and effective raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations. They continued their blows against enemy units in the Hajj 'Umran and east Zurbatiyah areas in the northern and central sectors of the battlefield, scoring direct hits on the enemy's troop concentrations, tanks, and military hardware and inflicting heavy losses on them. Columns of smoke and flames were sighted spiralling from the enemy targets. Our helicopters carried out 48 combat missions today. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

5. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward unit's positions east of Basra. Our units struck it with their weapons, killing nine and destroying one infantry position and one medium machinegun.

6. The suspect and criminal Khomeyniite clique yesterday evening and this morning shelled Mandali and Ash-Shihabi township and their outskirts, damaging some of the civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 August 1983

Communique No 1,177

JN060920 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0825 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,177 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 6 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Taste ye your trial! This is what ye used to ask to be hastened! [Koranic verse]

In reply to the Iranian regime's repeated attempts to cross our international borders, the latest of which were its attempts in the northern and central sectors; in order to prove to the enemy that its rash attempts to occupy small parts here or there of Iraq do not constitute any defect in the Iraqi stand on the strategic level and that such attempts are not the manner which ends the war, as the backward charlatans of Qom and Tehran imagine; and due to military reasons necessitated by the circumstances of the military operations on the front after the recent Iranian attacks on our borders, our forces of the valiant Army in the II Army Corps sector began on the night of 5-6 August and this morning a resolute offensive against the Mehran sector opposite our units. Our brave units managed to isolate and besiege the following towns and villages: Mehran, Rostomabad, Hormozabad, (Baninyubrozan), (Sarkhabad), Mansurabad, and Firuzabad. In this bold operation the Iranian force in this basin was besieged and tightly cordoned off. Our units are now on the Mehran-Dehloran and Mehran-Ilam roads. The fighting is still going on a large scale in this sector. Our valiant operations will continue until the set aims are achieved.

By this daring operation we have tangibly proved to the charlatan and his henchmen that our heroic Armed Forces are capable, as they have done before, of reaching any city in Iran whenever they want to. Meanwhile, the charlatan and his henchmen failed to achieve any serious aim of their expansionist and wicked aims across our international borders despite their repeated and desperate attempts since July 1982.

On this occasion, the Armed Forces General Command emphasizes to world public opinion and the Iranian peoples in particular that this operation does not entail any change in our unwavering political stand. Moreover, by this operation we do not mean to keep any inch of Iranian territory. The political and military aim of this operation is to give an eloquent lesson to the Tehran rulers, who are continuing their attempts to commit aggression against our land and people and who boast of occupying a mountain peak here or an isolated hill there along a 1,180-km front, taking advantage of our principled adherence to our defensive stand in defense of our country, land, sovereignty, and dignity as well our abstention from occupying any part of Iranian territory.

We affirm to the Iranian people that the only road leading to an end to the bloodshed and to the protection of Iran is that of peace, nonaggression, and establishment of neighborly relations between the two countries.

God is great and might to great Iraq and to its heroic people and valiant Army. Defeat, disgrace, and curses to Khomeyni and his wicked henchmen.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 August 1983

Map on Mehran Operation

JN061028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA) — A map shown by the television channels here today showed the areas besieged by Iraqi forces. The map also showed the Iraqi forces' routes and targets in the area of their military operations against the Mehran sector last night and this morning. The seven Iranian villages appeared isolated and besieged between the two jaws of pincers, while the Iranian force in this basin appeared tightly cordoned off after the Iraqi forces had taken control of the Mehran-Dehloran and Dehloran-Ilam roads.

The Iranian towns and villages isolated by the resolute Iraqi offensive are: Mehran, Rostamabad, Hormozabad, (Bahin), (Barozan), Farrokhabad, Mansurabad, and Firuzabad.

Analysts on Northern Operations

JN061316 Baghdad INA in English 1250 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 6, INA — The rulers of Iran are quite aware that their attempts to gain any foothold within the Iraqi territories have brought on them in every time, untoward consequences, military analysts tackling the situation in the wake of the recent Iranian offesive on (Kardahmand) in the northern sector said. They said that the Iranian forces paid a costy price when they, under Tehran rulers expansionist trend, had illusively thought that they gained a foothold in some areas, while in the fact, they were driven into the dilemma of death and destruction.

Meanwhile, a military spokesman last evening said that a fierce battle took place on (Kardahmand) Mountain after which the enemy forces were able to occupy one of the peaks of the mountain, while the Iraqi forces maintained control on the mountains foots and other nearby peaks.

The mountains which swallowed the aggressive Iranian troops and their stooges in the previous times, are capable to swallow them this time also and that Hajj 'Umran area would be their graveyard, the military spokesman added. The concerned Iranian military commanders are specifically aware of the consequences of such attempts, but they cannot convince their rulers, whom the huge life losses do not terrify, with that because they are afraid of certain death whether during the offensive or even before commencement.

Reports indicate that there are pro-regime elements within the military high command whose duty is to lay pressure on the field commanders to conduct such aggressive deeds regardless the consequences and the horrendous losses.

It is worth noting that the battle zones had witnessed repated attempts of the kind, but the results were disappointing represented in thousands of dead, captives and wounded, the analysts concluded.

Communique No 1,178

JN061805 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1645 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,178 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 6 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

O glorious Iraqis, O brave sons of the Armed Forces: This is Iraq's historic, valiant stand, fighting the ambitious Iranian enemy and battling its forces of aggression. O proud Iraqis, the sons of our great Army, you are currently waging a brave and triumphant battle against the reckless enemy whose decaying mind is filled with vanity, who has insisted on its expansionist, aggressive stands, and who has been aiming to occupy Iraq's chaste soil, its shrines, and its great establishments. O brave soldiers, you will remain splendid men, defending Iraq's dignity and honor, which is a trust in your hands. You will continue your triumphant operations against the sinful enemy whenever the country's security and territorial safety is at stake. You will inflict on the invading enemies from the Iranian Army and the henchmen of charlatan Khomeyni further losses, defeats, and disasters.

The results of today's activities are as follows:

1. Our brave forces in the Mehran area opposite the Zurbatiyah area in the II Army Corps sector, continue to maintain and tighten the siege on the following cities and townships: Mehran, Rostomabad, Hormozabad, (Bahin) and (Brozan) Farrokhabad,

Mansurabad, and Firuzabad, which were mentioned in our communique No 1,177 issued this morning. Our brave forces are determined to realize all their assigned targets. Our brave soldiers are still waging fierce battles against enemy units, inflicting further losses in men and equipment. We will inform you of the details later on.

2. Our brave untis in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the front have clashed with enemy forces which attempted to come closer to the positions of some of our forward untis last night and today. Fierce battles raged during which the enemy suffered heavy losses in men and equipment. The battlefield was filled with enemy corpses and with its destroyed and serviceable weapons. The battle still continues between our units and those of the enemy.

3. With hearts filled with love for the proud soil of Iraq, the daring pilots of our Air Force have been continuing their daring raids against enemy positions, concentrations, and columns in the northern and central sectors of the front since early this morning. Our daring pilots' performance was impressive; they inflicted heavy losses on enemy armor, equipment, and personnel, setting fire to enemy targets. Our planes today carried out 232 combat missions. All our planes returned safely to their bases, praise be to God.

4. The pilots of our Army helicopters, who pledged to God, the nation, and the leader to teach the enemy the lesson it deserves, today continued their successful attacks against enemy positions, troop assembly points, and columns in the northern and central sectors of the front, scoring direct and effective hits. The pilots of our helicopters showed immense courage in carrying out their missions and in inflicting on the enemy grave losses in men, vehicles, and armor. Our helicopters destroyed a column of 20 vehicles carrying personnel, killing or wounding their occupants; 23 vehicles of various types; 3 excavators; and a great quantity of equipment and hardware stockpiles in the northern sector. Our helicopters also destroyed 37 personnel assembly points; 2 tanks; 3 armored personnel carriers; 2 106-mm guns, and 8 vehicles, 2 of which were carrying personnel, in the central sector. Our helicopters today carried out 140 combat missions. All our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 August 1983

People Celebrate War Victories

JN061953 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Our people staged demonstrations today in various areas of Baghdad and other governorates to express pride in the triumph of our victorious Armed Forces in the sector of the II Army Corps and the Armed Forces' resolute offensive that resulted in a number of besieged Iranian cities and townships that taught the Iranians eloquent lessons. In their slogans and songs, the masses expressed happiness for these victories, adherence to President Saddam Hsuayn's outstanding leadership, and readiness to sacrifice their lives in the service of our just battle and to implement the national task assigned to them in defense of the nation's honor and the country's dignity.

Regiments Destroyed in Hajj 'Umran

JN070720 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0705 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — An Iraqi field commander stated yesterday that more than two Iranian regiments were destroyed and many enemy elements were captured opposite one of the Iraqi units in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the battlefield. In a statement to the INA war correspondent today, the field commander said that the enemy also sustained heavy losses in equipment and weapons and that several vehicles, military hardware, and various kinds of weapons were destroyed.

Aircraft Losses Denied

JN071222 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — Iraqi military sources have refuted Iranian claims that two Iraqi aircraft were shot down today. In a statement to INA, the sources said that since this morning Iraqi aircraft and helicopters have been carrying out usccessful raids against enemy troops concentrations and positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring effective hits against enemy tanks and military hardware in the central sector.

The sources explained the Iraqi aircraft scored accurate hits against an enemy column of 20 vehicles carrying personnel and military hardware in the central sector. The sources stressed that the Iranian Air Force did not dare approach the front or engage the Iraqi aircraft and that there was absolutely no activity.

The military sources also stressed that all the Iraqi aircraft and helicopters are successfully carrying out their mission without encountering any difficulties and have been returning safely to base all day today.

On the other hand, Iraqi field commanders have ridiculed Iranian claims that Iranian forces have imposed their control on some heights in the northern sector, stressing that Iraqi forces are firmly established in their positions and are inflicting heavy losses on the Iranian enemy in accordance with a splendid cooperation between the ground forces and the Air Force.

3,342 Killed 6 Aug

JN071246 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our Valiant Armed Forces, which have been fighting the rancorous enemy for over 35 months and have destroyed with their steadfastness and courage the enemy's attempts to commit aggression and achieve expansion, will always remain, with God's help, capable of inflicting harsh blows on the army of the aggressor enemy and the henchmen of charlatan Khomeyni, and of inflicting more losses and defeats on it.

The known enemy losses in the Mehran sector and the east Zurbatiyah area in the II Army Corps sector during yesterday's battles which have so far been counted amount to 3,342 killed, a very large number of wounded, many prisoners, and the destruction of 33 tanks, 31 vehicles of various types, some of which were carrying personnel and military hardware, 28 vehicles carrying 106-mm guns, 3 TOW missile launchers, and quantities of military hardware and weapons of various types. Our forces also captured other quantities of serviceable enemy weapons and military hardware.

Our valiant units in the Hajj 'Umran area in the I Army Corps sector during yesterday's battles succeeded in destroying more than two enemy regiments with their weapons and several excavators, vehicles, and military hardware of various types. Thus, our valiant Armed Forces continue their heroic battle against the enemy and its henchmen and prove that they are capable of destroying the enemy's evil dreams of expansion. Victory comes only from God.

[Dated]7 August 1983

Iranian Areas Besieged

JN071449 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1438 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] A military spokesman from the II Army Corps battlefield has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our columns are still encircling the city of Mehran and the villages mentioned in the Armed Forces General Command's Communique No 1,177 of yesterday. Fighting continues for the sake of implementing the set aims.

[Dated] 7 August 1983

Communique No 1,179

JN071741 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,179 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 7 August]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

O heroic Iraqis, O brave men of our triumphant Army: You and the whole world have realized that when the criminal Tehran rulers, headed by arch charlatan Khomeyni, continue their wicked hostile and expansionist stands and persist in their black grudge against Iraq's great people —the people of glories —they only choose for themselves disappointment, disgrace, and humiliation, and for their people and forces, the road to death, destruction, and annihilation. When you, heroes of our Armed Forces, fight the criminal Iranian enemy and continue your heroic and brave battles against its aggressor forces, you, by God, you assert loyalty to your strong, steadfast country and your proud and beloved people. You are fighting for the Iraqis' might and right to preserve their sovereignty and their country's independence. Deal further strong and destructive blows to the enemy forces and the hechmen of charlatan Khomeyni —enemies of God, life, and humanity. The results of the activities are as follows:

1. Our valiant units are still encircling the city of Mehran and the following villages: Rotamabad, Hormozabad, (Bahin)and (Brozan), Farrokhabad, Mansurabad, and Firuzabad as mentioned in yesterday's Communique No 1,177. These areas are being encircled and the fighting continues between our heroic units and the defeated enemy units. Our valiant units are determined to carry out the set aims, God willing.

During today's battles, our heroic forces inflicted very large losses in lives and equipment on the enemy, in addition to the losses sustained since our forces' encirclement of the Iranian villages and towns on the night of 5-6 August 1983. These losses were announced in the military spokesman's statement today. They amounted to 3,342 killed; large numbers wounded; others captured; 33 tanks, 31 vehicles of various types —some of which were loaded with personnel and equipment —28 vehicles carrying 106-mm guns, 3 TOW missile launchers, and quantities of military equipment and hardware of various types destroyed; and other quantities of serviceable enemy weapons and military hardware captured.

2. Since the day before yesterday our valiant units have been heroically and valiantly fighting the enemy forces in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our units managed to repulse and foil all the enemy's attacks, inflicting very large losses in men and equipment on the enemy. The enemy's dead and destroyed equipment are still littering the battlefield.

It has been confirmed that the 1st and 2d Regiments of the 1st Brigade of the 14th Division of the Khomeyni guards and the Independent 8th Regiment of the Khomeyni guards have been annihilated.

3. With high combat spirit and strong enthusiasm to inflict further losses on the enemy, the valiant eagles in our fighter planes carried out all day long today daring and successful raids against enemy units and troop concentrations in the northern and central sectors of the battlefield and against enemy concentrations and positions deep inside Iran. Our bold fighter planes imposed their full control over the battle skies, dealing strong and painful blows to the enemy and its forces. In one of these attacks, our fighter planes raided a column of enemy vehicles on the Ilam-Mehran road and managed to directly and effectively hit 20 vehicles loaded with personnel and equipment.

Last night our fighter planes carried out daring and successful raids. They lit up the battlefield and strafed the enemy positions, columns, and weapon emplacements, dealing them strong and effective blows which confused the enemy and inflicted massive losses on its units.

Our fighter planes today carried out 260 combat missions and all returned safely and triumphantly to base, praise be to God.

4. With absolute courage and competition to carry out the combat missions, the brave knights of helicopters continued all day long today their splendid backing of our heroic units and their brave confrontation of the enemy units in the northern and central sectors of the battlefield. They also launched daring attacks and raids against the enemy concentrations, vehicles, and armor, inflicting massive losses. Our valiant pilots saw a large number of the enemy tanks and vehicles either hit, destroyed, or burned. Our helicopters today carried out 82 combat missions before they all returned safely to base, praise be to God.

5. The suspect Khomeyniite enemy today shelled Mandali and its suburbs, wounding one civilian and damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed]The Armed Forces General Command, 7 August 1983

President Inspects Central Sector

JN071820 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today inspected the fighting positions in the central sector of the battlefield where since yesterday Iraqi forces have been besieging seven Iranian towns and villages. The president toured the fighting positions and discussed with commanders and field commanders of the Iraqi II Army Corps developments in the military situation and the progress of battles in the central sector.

The president acquainted imself with the Iraqi fighters' high preparedness to implement their tasks of penetrating Iranian territory and besieging and destroying Iranian forces in the Mehran area.

Chief of Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal and the II Army Corps commander accompanied the president on his tour.

5,695 Killed 5-6 Aug

JN071827 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1810 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We have received the following from the battlefield in the II Army Corps sector: During the battles which took place on the night of 5-6 August and on 6 August 1983, the criminal Iranian enemy sustained very massive losses by the heroes of the Khalid forces command. The know counted losses amounted to 5,695 killed; a large number wounded; 35 tanks and vehicles of various types, large quantities of medium and light weapons, and various military equipment destroyed, in addition to the losses mentioned in the Armed Forces General Command Communqiue No 1,179, which was issued this evening.

[Dated] 7 August 1983

9,037 Slain in Central Sector

JN072005 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA) — It was announced here tonight that the losses of the besieged Iranian forces in the Mehran area in the central sector of the battlefield amounted to 9,037 killed and a large number wounded. A military spokesman told INA that the competent quarters have so far counted 5,695 Iranian dead opposite the Khalid forces, which constitute one of the formations of the II Army Corps, in addition to 35 destroyed tanks and vehicles. Earlier today, the spokesman said that the Iranian losses in other positions amounted to 3,342 killed and 33 tanks, 69 vehicles of various types [figure as received], and 3 TOW missile launchers destroyed. The II Army Corps forces in this sector, which have been tightening their siege of seven Iranian towns and villages in the Mehran area since yesterday, are continuing their heroic battle to achieve the aim of their siege by destroying the remaining Iranian forces in the area.

Attempts To Break Siege Fail

JN080728 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following on the fighting in the Mehran area: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant armies are continuing to strike at enemy forces and to tighten the siege around Mehran city and the townships mentioned earlier. Since yesterday afternoon the enemy has been trying to untie the noose of truth which was clamped around its neck, but all its attempts have met with abject failure. The 4th Brigade of the 21st Division was completely wiped out. The brigade's quadrilateral formation [tashkilihi ar-ruba'i] was completed destroyed except for two or three tanks in each regiment. Thousands of dead Iranian soldiers covered the battlefield and destroyed weapons littered the ground everywhere.

[Dated] 8 August 1983

Hajj 'Umran Offensive Foiled

JN080807 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Aug (INA) — Iraqi forces have defeated an Iranian enemy attack against an important mountain peak in the Hajj'Umran area of the northern sector of the front and wiped out the attacking force, which consisted of one Khomeyni guards regiment and some traitor agents. This was announced by an Iraqi military spokesman a short while ago. He said that the Iranian enemy attacked an important mountain peak at Hajj 'Umran at dawn today and that the Iraqi forces confronted it valiantly and clashed with enemy forces using various weapons. A fierce battled ensued which lasted until 0900 today. The spokesman added that enemy bodies are covering the peak and that the rest of the enemy force fled in panic, licking their wounds.

King Husayn Appoints New Air Force Commander

JN061430 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, this morning visited the command of the Royal Jordanian Air Force [RJAF]. Upon his arrival, his majesty was received by Staff Lieutenant General Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jrodanian Armed Forces; the chief of staff; senior officers of the general command; and the commander of the RJAF.

During the visit, his majesty listened to a briefing from the senior officers of the RJAF, and gave his instructions to them following the new appointments in the force. The following are the new appointments: Major General Muhammad Taysir Za'rur as assistant chief of staff and Brigadier General Ihsan Hamid Shurdum as commander of the RJAF. On this occasion, Maj Gen Muhammad Taysir Za'rur talked about the establishment of the Royal Jrodanian Armed Forces and their development, which encompassed all the sectors of the Armed Forces and the RJAF in particular, thanks to his majesty the supreme commander.

Brig Gen Ihsan Shurdum, commander of the RJAF, praised the efforts of the former commander of the Air Force and also said that his majesty's visit to the command of the RJAF was a kind gesture and encouragement for all the personnel of the force to continue their efforts to acheive all the objectives drawn up by his majesty for realizing better protection and progress for our beloved Jordan.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B on McFarlane's Visit, Syrian Stance

JN070846 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 7 Aug 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Syrian Stance and the Available Possibilities," *Sawt ash-Sha'b* says: From the beginning, the main objective of the new U.S. envoy mission's has been to visit Damascus, because it is the Syrian stance which is obstructing a solution and [continuing] the Lebanese crisis.

Regardless of the media and political cover which accompanied the visit concerning the attempt by the U.S. envoy to convince Israel to set a timetable for its partial withdrawal from Lebanon, so that it will become an initial step within the framework of a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal in a way that would soothe Lebanon without giving it anything real and make the Syrian stance on the withdrawals from Lebanon flexible, this initiative faced Israeli rejection and insistence on remaining in the south so long as Syria remains in the north and Al-Biqa'. Yet, Israel knows the significance of the maneuver and that a verbal declaration on a timetable for withdrawal will not obligate it to anything.

Sawt ash-Sha'b says: The latest U.S. acknowledgement of the so-called fait accompli represented by settlements in the West Bank may be part of the price which the United States has paid to make Israel's stance flexible and to obtain a nonbinding declaration on a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

Sawt ash-Sha'b adds: The question which emerges after this maneuver is: What can Washington give Damascus to make it change its stance? In fact, what is Damascus asking after it has rejected the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, and what is the impact of the Syrian stance in Lebanon on the Syrian- and the Palestinian-occupied territories?

What is expected is that the status quo in Lebanon will continue for a long time if the U.S. envoy does not bring new elements to reactivate the situation. The current stage is not suitable for any U.S. initiative, whether in Lebanon or on the Palestinian problem. Washington is aware of the need to satisfy Tel Aviv to the maximum as the U.S. elections draw closer. Consequently, this makes U.S. efforts in Lebanon useless or an attempt to maintain the momentum of the dialogue without any hope of achieving anything decisive at this stage.

The most important thing is that the Syrian stance should be linked with clear objectives that are not confined to regional demands in Lebanon but cover pan-Arab objectives related to the issue of the Israeli occupation of Syrian-, Lebanese-, and Palestinian-occupied territories.

Sawt ash-Sha'b concludes: What we have said up to now depends on Damascus and will remain wishful thinking as long as the final objectives of the Syrian stance are not yet clear and declared.

JORDAN TIMES Views U.S. Veto, Policy

JN070738 Amman Jordan Times in English 7 Aug 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Whose Argument Is Sterile?"]

[Text] When a U.S. State Department official was asked, here in Amman a few months ago, why the Reagan administration chose to abandon President Carter's policy of considering "illegal" Israeli settlements on the West Bank, he had to look around for an answer. "You know how new administrations like to be different," he finally said. "As far as the Reagan men are concerned, the switch (in terms describing Israeli settlements) from 'Illegal' to merely 'unhelpful' may have been the least the California guys could do to show creativity and originality." And, the official lamented that he personally had to lose his old comfortable job as a result of such changes constantly taking place in Washington.

It turned out, after the American veto of last Tuesday's U.N. Security Council draft resolution condemning Israel's settlement activity in the occupied territories, that this official's assessment of his administration's policy was at best flawed, and that the State Department has itself been behind the shift in the theoretical American attitude towards Israel's continued colonisation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

We are not going to get into a sterile argument as to whether Israel's settlement policy has or has not a legal validity, as this matter should be left for negotiations, said the official spokesman of the State Department soon after the veto, as if to prove this point. And, the call for dismantling the existing settlements is not a "practical demand" either, according to him.

So, it seems, Washington's official policy has all along been not that of trading territory for peace but of compromising what is left of Arab territory for recognition of Israeli super rights to our lands. Otherwise, what is the meaning of all that the Americans have said during and after the U.N. vote last Tuesday?

Well, we will have to admit that the latest American position has come as no surprise to us. It is new and more dangerous only in that the U.S. Administration has finally spelled out the worst of what it must have been thinking since last September, when Mr. Reagan announced his proposals for the Middle East.

But, as it happens, there is not much left to say to the Americans except that the failure is all theirs. Neither Jrodan nor the Palestinians nor anybody in the Arab World will ever accept to enter "sterile" peace negotiations whose main purpose would eventually turn out to be the legitimisation of Israeli occupation.

Briefs

Agreement With PRC — Amman, Aug 7 (KUNA) — The Jordanian Government Sunday approved a cultural and educational draft agreement with China. The government authorizes Education Minister Dr. Sa'id at-Tall to sign the three-year agreement which aims at increasing educational cooperation and cultural visits. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in English 1126 GMT 7 Aug 83 LD]

Al-Wazzan Meets McFarlane, Makes Statement

NC051236 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The talks held by U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane with Israeli officials yesterday were today appraised between Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and McFarlane in the presence of U.S. Ambassador in Beirut Robert Dillon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said after the meeting: At today's meeting we were briefed on the talks which U.S. envoy McFarlane had in Israel and on the ideas he put forward. These ideas constitute some sort of progress but still must be crystallized in a final form. It appears that this mission still requires further contacts.

Complete Withdrawal Emphasized

NC051850 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Regarding the new development that Lebanon has felt as a result of McFarlane's talks in Israel, Prime Minister Al-Wazzan said: You know that U.S. presidential envoy McFarlane is on the move to implement the mission assigned to him. He will leave for Syria shortly to continue his mission. At our meeting today, we reviewed his talks in Israel and his ideas about withdrawal. This was an occasion for us to emphasize our refusal to discuss any partial withdrawal. We consider complete withdrawal to be a Lebanese demand from which we will not budge. We will not accept any withdrawal proposed to us unless it is within a specifically phased timetable.

Al-Wazzan added: It seems that this demand is meeting full understanding and that McFarlane has returned to us with several ideas following his talks with the Israeli side. These ideas, though they constitute a kind of progress toward our demand, have not chrystallized in a final form to make us agree or disagree.

Concluding his statement Al-Wazzan said: It seems that things still need more contacts, and McFarlane will continue with this.

Jordanian Military Delegation Arrives in Beirut

NC080458 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] A military delegation from the Jordanian Armed Forces comprising Staff Major General Hilmi al-Lawzi and Staff Brigadier General Shafiq 'Ujaylat arrived at Beirut International Airport at 2000 today. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by staff brigadier general [as heard], and the deputy chief of staff for manpower representing Army Commander General Tannus.

Official Sources Deny Envoy Sent to Syria

NC061415 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Information sources have reported that a Lebanese presidential envoy has visited Damascus and met with a number of Syrian officials. Official sources have denied this report, saying that no presidential envoy has been sent to the Syrian capital.

Salvation Front To Meet in Damascus 8 August

NC070922 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The Syrian-backed National Salvation Front will hold a meeting in Damascus tomorrow. The meeting will be attended by representatives of some leftist parties in Al-Biqa'.

Phalangist, Amal Officials Meet in Sidon

NC061425 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] A meeting was held in Sidon today between Az-Zahrani Deputy and Phalangist Party Political Bureau member Dr Rashid al-Khuri and Amal Movement Political Bureau member Al-Haj Muhammad Ghaddar. The discussions dealt with the situation in the area and how to forestall anything that might cause contradictions. They agreed on the need to immediately contain any personal incidents that might take place in order to uphold the fraternal co-existence among the citizens, which has been generally characteristic of the south.

Amal Leader Urges National Sit-in 7 August

NC061950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Appeal made by Nabih Birri, chairman of the command council of the Amal Movement, on 6 August; place not given — recorded]

[Text] My brothers, sons of the south in every village or town, and in every plain or height. You have upheld the identity of Lebanon, the role of Lebanon, and the survival of Lebanon. Today, the unity of Lebanon and its continued existence depends on you. The detention to which your leaders, brothers, and kinfolk have been subjected; the pressure that is being exerted on the villages, families, and honest men; the attempts that are being made to isolate you from Lebanon and to keep southern Lebanon in the Israeli grip through the implementation of partial withdrawal; and the economic blockade which is aimed at obstructing your continued link with Lebanon — all these are matters to which the south is now being subjected within the major plot that is being concocted against Lebanon, the one and united homeland.

For this reason, the Amal Movement command deemed it appropriate to appeal to you to observe a sit-in everywhere in Lebanon — in every church, in every mosque, in every school, and in every religious assembly hall of the Druze — throughout the day tomorrow, Sunday, in expression of your solidarity and of your remaining within a united Lebanon until the pressure is lifted and the detainees — who now number about 1,000 Lebanese citizens, in addition to the detainees of other nationalities — are released. Therefore, I appeal to you again to commit yourselves and to give this lesson and example to the Israeli occupation forces so that we may continued to remain and continue to exist in our country, Lebanon.

Sit-in Against Israel Held

NC071223 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Aug 83

[National Information Agency correspondent's dispatch — recorded]

[Text] The villages and townships in the districts of Za-Zahrani and An-Nabatiyah [in the south] today staged a sit-in in the mosques to protest the Israeli practices in the south and demand the release of all detainees.

The sit-in was most intensive in Kafr Milki where the inhabitants of the earby villages gathered in the township's mosque. Speakers delivered speeches in which they denounced the Israeli forces' raids and arrests in disregard of all human rights and all humanitarian feelings. The speakers rejected the partial withdrawal insisting on the unconditional total withdrawal of the Israeli forces. They stressed that the building of the homeland requires the efforts of all its factions and groups, the unity of its sons and the solidarity of its factions in confronting the Israeli forces.

After the sit-in, a march was staged in the streets of the township. The marchers reiterated slogans hostile to Israel and against the partial withdrawal. They demanded the release of the detainees.

On the other side, the social committee in Kafr Milki issued a statement denouncing Israeli practices in the south and the detention of dozens of its sons. It demanded the release of the detainees in Ansar camp.

Al-Wazzan Greets Protesters

NC071754 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has saluted the people of the south who staged a sit-in today in Husayniyat in southern Lebanon in protest against the Israeli forces' practices. He said the people of the south, through their sit-in, express their faith in and adherence to the unity of their homeland and their freedom as well as their support for legitimacy and rejection of partial withdrawals.

The people of the south today staged a sit-in in various areas in the south in denunciation of the campaign of arrests launched by the Israeli forces and of partial Israeli withdrawal.

Strike in South Protests Israeli Detentions

NC061955 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Our correspondent in the south has sent us this dispatch on the strike which was observed in (Iqlim at-Tuffah) today:

[Begin recording] Most of the villages in (Iqlim at-Tuffah) in the south observed a general strike today to protest the Israeli forces' detention of a number of citizens. A general strike will be observed in all areas in the south tomorrow, Sunday. The towns along the Sidon-Jba' route — Kafr Hatta, Kafr Milki, Jarju', 'Arab Salim, and Jba' — declared a peaceful strike as of this morning. The citizens cut some of the roads in this area for 2 hours.

It has been learned that armed persons detained a number of citizens in the town of Jba', including Shaykh Kamil Wajdi, for 4 hours and then released them after warning them not to carry out any hostile activities. Several statements denouncing the policy of arresting southern citizens were distributed in the area.

A statement issued by the committee following up the case of the detainees in (Iqlim at-Tuffah) said: We call on Israeli authorities to apply all international laws that preserve human rights in the southern areas. The statement then called on most of the humanitarian organizations in Lebanon and abroad, particularly the International Red Cross, to act quickly and seriously to put an end to these practices.

The office of the National Agency for Information has been reporting to you. We now return you to Beirut. [end recording]

24 October Movement Leader Discusses Tripoli

NC061914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Faruq al-Muqaddam, secretary general of the 24 October movement, held a news conference in Tripoli at which he outlined the movement's stand with regard to the developments in the second capital. Our correspondent Anwar Hallaq has summed up the proceedings of the news conference as follows:

[Begin recording] Faruq al-Muqaddam, chairman of the central command of the 24 October movement, held a news conference at the movement's headquarters today at which he spoke about the various aspects of the situation in the city of Tripoli. At the beginning of the news conference, Al-Muqaddam referred to the suffering the city is experiencing. He said that the city will not be like a weak orphan under the mercy of the game of nations. He emphasized that Tripoli is the key to the north, a model of civilized co-existence, and that it rejects all kinds of pressure, hesitation, (?falsification), and weakness. He referred to what he had earlier advocated — about declaring greater Tripoli, from Al-Qalamun up to Al-Biddawi, an arms free area under the banner of the legitimate authority and removing all roadblocks from the Beirut-Tripoli Highway. Al-Muqaddam renewed his call for convening a conference of the various political, economic, cultural, and spiritual functionaries and leaders in order to find a new formula for the situation in the city.

Al-Muqaddim then pointed to the industrial, commercial, banking, and agricultural situation in Tripoli, calling on all the functionaries to participate in shaping Lebanon's independence and to stand in one line for the sake of Lebanon's destiny. Al-Muqaddam concluded his news conference by saluting both parts of the legitimacy — the government and the people — and by calling for referring yesterday's car bomb massacre case to the judicial council and for handing those accused in the Al-Bahsat massacre to the judicial authorities.

Anwar Hallaq has reported to you from Tripoli. [end recording]

19 Killed in Tripoli Bomb Explosion 5 August

NC051154 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] We begin our newscast by pointing out that, at approximately 1300 today a booby-trapped car exploded near the Ash-Sha'rani mosque in Al-Qubbah in Tripoli while worshipers were performing their Friday prayers. A number of persons were killed or wounded and were taken to the Al-Mazlum hospital. Consequently, the situation became tense between Bab at-Tabbanah and Ba'lmuhsin. Explosions and machinegun fire are now being heard.

Report on Casualties

NC051841 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] We learned a short while ago that the number of dead in Tripoli has risen to 19 and the injured to 38. There are 11 dead in the Islamic hospital, 1 dead in Al-Batrun hospital, and 7 dead in other hospitals in Tripoli. We have also learned that among the injured are three Lebanese Army soldiers and four internal security personnel. They were taken to the government hospital where they are being treated.

Local Group Said Responsible

NC060934 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] The ongoing investigations into the horrendous massacre in Tripoli yesterday have revealed that the perpetrators belong to a local organization affiliated with external sides. The perpetrators carried out the crime in retaliation for the killing of so-called Rajab Su'ayfan and his companion 'Abd al-Qadir Sulayman last Wednesday, when fire was opened on them in the Al-Minyah area from a passing BMW. Rajab was taken to the hospital but succumbed to his wounds yesterday.

Tripoli Workers Stage Strike

NC060836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Work at Tripoli port stopped today in protest against the car bomb explosion in the city yesterday. About 90 percent of the shops in Al-Qubbah, As-Suwayqah, and the nearby quarters and streets, where gunmen have appeared, are closed. However, university examinations are continuing in university branches in Al-Qubbah in a calm and serious atmosphere.

Situation Quiet

NC061826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Dispatch by Muhammad al-Hakim on 6 August — recorded]

[Text] Prayers were said in every mosque in Tripoli today for the repose of the souls of the victims of yesterday's massacre. The coffins were then taken in procession to their final resting place. Thus, the people of Tripoli have shown discipline and have responsed to the appeal made by the various functionaries in Tripoli to refrain from acting in a tumultuous and convulsive manner. Therefore, this day passed quietly. The internal security forces' patrols were in their military cars roaming the streets of the city — in 'Azmi, in At-Tall, at the port, in Al-Qubbah, in At-Tabbanah, in Al-Mallulah.

On the official level, acting Governor of the North 'Abd al-'Aziz Abu Haydar has summed up the situation as follows:

[Begin Abu Haydar recording] In the wake of the horrendous massacre that has afflicted the city of Tripoli, it was our responsibility to meet with officials on various levels to tackle the situation resulting from the tragic incident and to carry out what is dictated by duty. We asked the official quarters to act by all the means and capabilities they have to help the bereaved and those who sustained losses. Contacts were made with the quarters concerned to quickly take the measures that will lead to the discovery of the perpetrators of this abominable crime.

The military attorney and the military investigator came to Tripoli from Beirut today and inspected the scene of the explosion. They also conducted the necessary investigations preparatory to uncovering the culprits as soon as possible. As for this barbaric crime, I must praise the conscious and honorable stand the Tripoli citizens and their wise leaders have adopted with regard to this crime. By their stand, they have frustrated the schemes of the perpetrators of this crime and those who back them. [end recording]

Thank you, governor. Muhammad al-Hakim has reported to you from Tripoli. We now return you to Beirut.

Al-Wazzan Condemns Massacre

NC051836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli has been closed since 1300 today after the conflict there between foreigners left 19 people dead and 38 injured when a booby-trapped car exploded at the same moment prayers were being said at the Al-Baqqar Mosque in the Ash-Sha'Rani quarter in Al-Qubbah. The incident shook the officials who, through MacFarlane's mission, are seeking to end the current abnormal situation in the north, the south, and Al-Biqa' which results from the practices of foreign forces on Lebanese territory.

Commenting on the new massacre in Tripoli, Prime Minister Al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] The new massacre in Tripoli pains me very much. The beautiful and valiant Tripoli has had enough wounds. Following the Al-Bahsas massacre there, we now have the Al-Qubbah massacre. I do not know why these crimes are perpetrated against Tripoli and its people. Parking a booby-trapped car in front of the Al-Qubbah mosque at a time when people are emerging from their prayers is senseless. It is not struggle and can only be explained as a most heinous crime. We are not content with words of denunciation. We appeal to everyone to cooperate to reveal the perpetrators of the mass murder. This crime has no justification other than the intention to murder, destroy, and foment sedition in this beloved city that has had so many wounds. I do not know what to say or do. We must all do our utmost and follow our conscience to adopt a unified stand to end this tragedy surrounding us everywhere in our dear Lebanon. What has befallen Tripoli today harms every loyal Lebanese and hits at the heart of Lebanon. We condemn those who will be meted their punishment sooner or later. [end recording]

Karami Statement on Incident

NC060712 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Reacting to the grotesque crime that was perpetrated in Tripoli yesterday, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami said the venemous plot and its offshoot of Nazist, bestial crimes clearly reveal the sides that are behind these crimes. He added that Tripoli — the lofty national stronghold that rejects hegemony, persecution, and the one-party system, advocates justice and equality, and supports Lebanon's sovereignty and liberation — cannot imagine that such stands are met with such bestial acts. Karami said: Hence, we know that the price of this national march is great, but our steadfastness and sacrifices in return are greater.

33 Killed in Ba'labakk Explosion 7 August

NC071113 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Dear listeners: We are now in direct contact with the editorial section of the National Information Agency: According to a report from Ba'labakk, a booby-trapped car exploded at the vegetable market at approximately 1220. According to preliminary information, the explosion killed and wounded some persons. The ambulances, according to reports received by the Internal Security Forces, are now moving the wounded to the hospitals. Security forces have not yet determined the number of the killed and wounded. We will hold intensive contacts and will provide the details at 1330.

Syria Said Responsible

NC071240 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] A new outrageous crime was committed in Ba'labakk at noon today. Over 20 persons were killed and 40 others were wounded, 9 of them seriously, when a car packed with about 75 kg of TNT, parked in the vegetable market at the end of (As-Saraya) street in Ba'labakk went off. It is believed that the car is of Japanese make.

Fear prevailed in the city and huge fires broke out at the scene of the explosion; a number of houses were damaged, and over 14 cars were burned or damaged. Fire engines, civil defense and Red Cross cars were seen rushing to the scene of the explosion to remove the bodies and the rubble. It is believed that there are missing persons under the rubble and the rescue teams are working to pull them out.

As soon as the explosion occurred, gunmen cordoned off the area and opened fire in the air to disperse the crowd. The rescue teams were still removing the victims and searching for missing persons among the rubble at the time this newscast was being prepared.

The hidden motives for this terrible crime are known. They are represented by the Palestinian-Syrian conflict that is taking place in more than one area in Lebanon. It is worth referring to the statement that was issued by certain Ba'labakk quarters, with Syrian urging, for removing the Palestinians from the city to a distance of 10 km.

Death Toll Reported

NC071645 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1639 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Excerpt] We have just been handed the following report: The Lebanese Red Cross has announced that the final toll claimed by the Ba'labakk bombing is 33 dead and 133 wounded.

Group Claims Responsibility

NC071855 Paris AFP in English 1847 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Beirut Aug 7 (AFP) — A car bomb killed 33 persons and injured 133 today in the marketplace of the town of Ba'labakk in central Lebanon's Al-Biqa' valley, the International Red Cross said.

The bomb was claimed, in a telephone call to the AFP bureau here, by a group called the "Organization for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners."

The caller said the group would take other action in occupied Lebanese regions aimed at ridding the country of outside forces.

The organization has claimed other fatal attacks in Lebanon.

Al-Wazzan Denounces Incident

NC071543 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text)0 Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has denounced today's booby-trapped car explosion in Ba'labakk. He said the aims of the incident are similar to those of the incident that took place 2 days ago in Tripoli. He added that the incident emphasizes that there are those who insist on bringing back to the country an atmosphere of sedition and evil whenever a ray of hope for salvation appears.

Prime Minister Al-Wazzan today followed the developments of the security situation through contacts he made with the security commands, particularly with Internal Security Forces Director General Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, who briefed him on the reports about the explosion. Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Brig Gen 'Uthman also continued discussing the subjects raised during the meeting at the prime minister's residence last night, which dealt with the security measures that the Internal Security Forces will adopt in all the areas under their control to consolidate security.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan also remained in touch with Civil Defense Director Nazih Sham'un to follow the operations of rescuing the wounded, pulling out the bodies, and removing the rubble resulting from the car bomb explosion in Ba'labakk.

Meanwhile, Civil Defense authorities now have named 28 of those killed — these include mutilated bodies and the bodies of two Syrian soldiers — and 37 others who were wounded in the car bomb explosion that took place in the vegetable market in Ba'labakk at noon today.

Sham'un Statement on Explosion

NC071817 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] [Former] President Camille Sham'un has strongly denounced the outrage in Ba'labakk, expressing his [word indistinct] and sorrow at the falling of so many victims at the hands of foreigners harming the country's security. President Sham'un said that the authors of the explosion at Ba'labakk were the same as those behind the explosion at Tripoli as well as the shelling and the escalation of tension on the security scene every time an American envoy came. The system employed every time Mr Philip Habib visited the region was evidently still being used to mar the visit of Mr McFarlane. After all, said President Sham'un, there is the highest hope that Mr McFarlane will be able to persuade the Syrians to withdraw from all of Lebanon. If it could do this, Washington would be rendering Lebanon the highest service.

Violent Clashes Erupt in Alayh 7 August

NC070457 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Violent clashes are taking place on the Alayh district axis. All types of weapons are being used. The sound of heavy shelling and continuous explosions has been heard in the capital and its suburbs since 0100 this morning.

The Alayh and upper Al-Matn axes last night witnessed clashes which involved Balshmayh, Btatir, Bhamdun, Qibbay, and Al-Qurayyah. The clashes were accompanied by heavy artillery exchanges.

Fighting Continues

NC070458 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Artillery duel erupted anew on the 'Alayh axis early this morning when the socialist positions in 'Alayh, 'Aytat, Kayfun, Baysur, and Ra's Jabal 'Alayh opened their fire toward the Suq Al-Gharb perimeter and 'Ayn Ar-Rummanah at 0230 using heavy weapons of various calibers, particularly artillery and rockets. The shelling intensified at 0400. The Lebanese forces returned the fire, and shelling could still be heard at 0515.

The artillery and rocket shelling expanded to cover Wadi Shuhrur and nearby areas at 0420 claiming no human losses.

Heavy Damage Reported in Ash-Shuf Clashes

NC062056 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] The townships of Ba'lshmayh, Btatir, Bhamdun, Al-Kahluniyah, Ra's al-Harf, Qibbay', Ash-Shabaniyah, and Al-Qurayyah this evening witnessed exchanges of fire from light, medium, and heavy weapons. The intensity of the clashes gradually eased from 2115. No casualties have been reported. However, heavy material damage was caused as a result of the use of field artillery belonging to the socialists and the Syrians. The shelling was returned.

According to reports from the Ash-Shuf since 1830 today socialist gunmen have been directing sniper fire from their positions in Kafr Nabrakh toward the roads leading to Ma'asir Bayt ad-din. Ilyas Shukri Dahir, 24, from Ma'asir Bayt ad-Din was wounded and taken to Rahibat as-Salib hospital in Dayr al-Qamar.

Cease-Fire Agreement Reached

NC051230 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The socialists directed their artillery shells from their positions in Kafr Him and B'aqlin at Dayr al-Qamar and Dardurit today. The local Lebanese forces returned fire to silence the sources of the shelling.

A cease-fire agreement was reached at 1110. The socialists early today directed a number of shells on Bsaba from their artillery positions inm Al-Ma'rufiyah. Last night the socialists tried to explode the situation on the 'Alayh-'Ayn ar-Rummanah-Suq al-Gharb axis.

6 August Explosions, Clashes in Beirut

NC060625 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Excerpts] A security source has reported that a bomb exploded in front of Muhammad al-Bizri's shop in Sidon at approximately 2100 last night. An Internal Security Forces patrol happened to pass near the place when the incident occurred. The patrol's car was damaged but nobody was hurt. Gunmen opened fire on the patrol's members but none were hit. The Israeli forces immediately cordoned off the place and launched a wide-scale search campaign in the nearby buildings and streets.

Security sources have reported that there was a shooting incident near the mosque on the road to Beirut Airport. According to the preliminary information, the shooting took place between Army personnel and an armed youth. The Army personnel tried to strip the youth of his weapon. There have been no complications.

At 0200 this morning a bomb was hurled in Clemensu Street. It fell on a park a few meters from the French Embassy. The explosion was followed by a burst of gunfire over the heads of soldiers. Immediately afterwards, a B7 rocket was fired at the fourth floor of the building housing the Bank of Beirut and the Arab Countries, causing damage to the Alpha drug store.

In the mountain, the security situation suffered a setback. Clashes with all types of weapons took place between 'Aytat and Suq al-Gharb from 0130 to 0230 this morning.

Presidential Envoy McFarlane Makes Visit

Arrives 6 August

JN061530 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus — Robert McFarlane, personal envoy of the U.S. President, arrived in Damascus at 1700 today on a visit to Syria within his current tour of the region. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Rashid al-Kaylani, assistant foreign minister; Dr Sami Ghulayl, head of the U.S. desk at the Foreign Ministry; Misbah ad-Dalati, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; and the U.S. ambassador and embassy staff in Damascus.

6 Aug TISHRIN

JN060956 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0745 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 6 Aug (SANA) — In its commentary today under the headline "The United States and the Search for a Way Out," *Tishrin* said that if the United States really wants to end the deadlock in the dialogue and find an objective basis for a logical dialogue that would keep it away from its blind favoritism and absolute support for Israel, then it must initiate a serious and responsible dialogue.

Tishrin added that the United States must as well as its strategic and special considerations which have comprehensive pan-Arab concepts and long-term dimensions, particularly regarding Lebanon. It affirmed that any new dialogue must be based on this principle, which Syria cannot overstep. These are security and straegic considerations on which Syria bases its rejection of the contract of submission.

Any useful dialogue must necessarily be based on the situation before the agreement so that Israel's gains from the agreement and the invasion will be canceled. Only then will McFarlane find the grounds to start a dialogue with defined pratical bases and principles.

The paper added that Syria is in no hurry to waste a single particle of Arab rights in Lebanon or anywhere else. The dilemma is a compounded U.S.-Israeli-Phalangist predicament and the United States must find a way out. The only way out is to torpedo the agreement, which rewards Israel for its invasion of Lebanon and aggression against the Arabs, and seek an objective alternative that complies with international legitimacy and the will of the international community.

Concluding, the paper affirmed its emphasis that Syria takes into account every eventuality, particularly the worst, because it has had much experience with U.S. thinking in dealing with the Arabs. In the event of the worst possibility, it would be an insane move that would achieve only further retreats and painful results for the United States and Israel.

Talks With Khaddam Begin

JN061819 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] At 1800 today a round of talks was held at the Foreign Ministry between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Robert McFarlane, personal envoy of U.S. President Reagan to the Middle East.

Those who attended on the Syrian side were: Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Rashid al-Kaylani, assistant foreign minister; and Dr Sami Ghulayl, head of the U.S. desk at the Foreign Ministry. On the U.S. side were Ambassador Richard Fairbanks; McFarlane's deputy Robert Paganelli, U.S. ambassador in Damascus [as heard]; and the members of the delegation accompanying the U.S. President's envoy.

The talks revolve around the current political situation in the Middle East and Lebanon.

7 Aug TISHRIN Comment

JN070928 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0755 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 7 Aug (SANA) — *Tishrin* says in today's comment that the tour of the new U.S. Envoy McFarlane has begun amid a wave of violence and explosions which has covered most of Lebanon. At the same time, news agency reports say that McFarlane has not brought any new ideas but that, like his predecessors, he has come only to convey Israel's demands.

The paper points out that the bloody events experienced by the Middle East are the natural outcome of the U.S.-Israeli plan which has been charted for the region through the Camp David accords, the Reagan plan, and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Tishrin says: We tell McFarlane while he is in Damascus holding talks with Syrian officials to find a way out of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement impasse that getting out of this impasse calls on Washington to lift the siege it has mounted around the Arab nation through colluding regimes and to hold a serious dialogue with the real representatives of the Arab people, not with rulers whose sole concern is to safeguard their shaky seats. Getting out of the impasse also calls for a civilized dialogue, one not accompanied by a wave of boobytrapped car explosions and acts of murder, but which takes into account real political bases.

The paper concludes its comment by saying: It is certain that McFarlane will only hear in Damascus what Shultz, Habib, and Kissinger have heard. Damascus adheres to its principiles and stands, because any deviation from them would mean the collapse of the whole Arab nation.

AL-BA'TH on Bargaining Stance

JN070940 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 7 Aug (SANA) — In an editorial today, *Al-Ba'th says that in wake of Lebanese President Amin al-*Jumayyil's famous visit to Washington, pressure against Syria began to intensify in various forms, with the participation of all those who have an interest in implementing Shultz' deal and all those who are working for the U.S.-Zionist-Phalangist alliance. The paper adds: This campaign started with the removal of Philip Habib and his replacement by the new envoy, Robert McFarlane, and by linking the issue to Syria's stand as if Syria defines its stands through individuals. U.S. officials have begaun to allude to a new deal which is looming in the horizon of U.S. diplomacy, a barter of the occupied Golan for a withdrawal from Lebanon, as if Syria, like the others, bargains on national and pan-Arab issues.

The paper adds: Naturally, Syria has had nothing to do with these campaigns and is not concerned about replying to them. Syria continues to abide by its declared stand and to make decisions which express our Arab nation's aspirations.

The paper concludes: Those who have been closely following the broad lines of U.S. policy for the past months clearly realize that President Reagan, who is preparing for the presidential elections, is trying in one way or the other to launch his presidential campaign from the Middle East. That's why he has mobilized his political and military instruments with an eye toward this region to achieve the first step that would bring him back to the White House for a second term. Can this political and military pressure bear any fruit?

Damascus Radio Commentary

JN061348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. envoys come and go in the region one after another. Some of them tour two or more capitals while others shuttle between the sides concerned in the Middle East crisis. Every envoy is preceded by statements about U.S. interest in guaranteeing peace and helping the sides in the crisis reach a political settlement that would guarantee the interests and agreement of the various sides.

During the past few years, Philip Habib served U.S. moves in the region. Habib arranged the well-known cease-fire agreement between Israel and the PLO in southern Lebanon and, 11 months later, this agreement was followed by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. During Habib's mission, U.S. policy was crystallized by proposals announced on 1 September 1982 in the name of U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz came to the region twice and Philip Habib was replaced by Robert McFarlane, who was working on the White House staff. McFarlane's new mission in the region was preceded by information about his seriousness, firmness, silence, resolution, and determination to avoid bargaining and bazaar methods, which means he that he is saying: Either take the bargain or leave it.

All these issues about the names, character, personality, and past history of envoys are secondary details, just as was the appointment of the former U.S. ambassador in Damascus and Saudi Arabia as an assistant U.S. secretary of state. The principal issue does not concern individuals but policy. The role of those who propagate the policy is secondary with respect to the policy and the extent of its agreement with or opposition to the interests of the other sides. The best and most skillful diplomats cannot make bad policy good and acceptable and they do not have the ability to convince the sides to accept proposals that conflict with their interests.

A good policy imposes itself on people and forces others to accept it, even if those who convey and propagate it do not have many personal qualities that make a successful diplomat. The problem with the United States is not with its individuals but with its policy. The question is: Is there a specific U.S. policy in the region? Experience has shown that there is no independent U.S. policy in the region and that the U.S. Government cannot act separately upon its own decision in the Middle East. Experience has also shown that U.S. policy was, and still is, tied to Israel through the U.S. Administration's promises to Israel during Kissinger's era, in accordance with the strategic cooperation agreement, and in accordance with the U.S. Administration's obedience to the pressure of the Zionist lobby in the United States.

One of the numerous examples of this is that the U.S. Administration could not respect its signing of the well-known U.S.-USSR statement on the Middle East for more than a few days. Despite all U.S. statements about removing Israel from Lebanon, these statements became crystallized in the form of immense pressure on the Lebanese regime, which collapsed and signed the humiliating contract of submission. These were also crystallized in Reagan's statements supporting the partial withdrawal, which means approving of Israel's seizure of southern Lebanon.

Despite the well-known U.S. statements about the illegitimacy of the Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, the United States used the veto to prevent the United Nations and the majority from adopting a resolution that condemns the settlement policy and the Judaization of Arab land. As long as U.S. policy continues to be a hostage in Israel's hands and the Zionist lobby and is unable to respect the rights and interests of the sides concerned,harmonize with the principles of the UN Charter and resolutions, and take into account the objective reality in the region and the interests of all sides concerned in this special sensitive region, then the chances of any U.S. envoy, irrespective of his effeciency, will be restricted within narrow lines dictated by this particular policy. The problem lies with U.S. policy rather than U.S. envoys because the envoy is essentially a promoter, and not a maker, of policies.

Al-Asad Receives U.S. Envoy

JN071753 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] At 1130 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Robert McFarlane, personal envoy of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. During the meeting, the situation in the region and related issues were reviewed.

The president explained Syria's principled stand on the region's situation and events. The president stressed that Syria is for Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty. He said Syria opposes the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, which is intended to be imposed on Lebanon, because it deprives Lebanon of its freedom and independence, turns it into an Israeli protectorate, shifts it away from its Arab position, and places it under the Israeli umbrella and hegemony.

Robert McFarlane left Damascus this evening following a brief visit to Syria. Rashid al-Kaylani, assistant foreign minister; Sami Ghulayl, head of the U.S. desk at the Foreign Ministry; Misbah ad-Dalati, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; and the U.S. ambassador and US. embassy staff saw him off at Damascus International Airport.

Syrian Source on Talks

JN071925 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Robert McFarlane, special U.S. Middle East envoy, left Damascus this evening following a brief visit during which he met separately with President Hafiz al-Asad for 6 hours.

An informed Syrian source announced that Syria informed the new U.S. envoy that it is not ready to make any concessions regarding the document of concession —that is, the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. The source added that McFarlane did not bring any new U.S. proposal which responds to Syrian demands which simply call for the cancellation of the agreement imposed on Lebanon.

The informed Syrian source also said that President al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam told the U.S. envoy that Syria will not withdraw its forces from Lebanon before the last israeli soldier is withdrawn from Lebanon or before the Israeli-Lebanese agreement and Israel's gains in Lebanon are condemned.

8 Aug Press Comment

JN080940 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0755 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, 8 Aug (SANA) — In today's comment, the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says: If the United States were really interested in Lebanon's unity and independence, why did it contribute its weapons and experts and its material and political support to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon? If the aim were to remove the Palestinian resistance from Lebanon, why has Israel continued its occupation since the withdrawal of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut and southern Lebanon?

Commenting under the headline "The United States Kills Time To Serve Israel's Interests," *Al-Ba'th* refers to Reagan's letter to Al-Jumayyil which stipulated that U.S. efforts are currently centered on arming and training the Lebanese Army and not on getting rid of the occupation. The paper said that this letter explains an important part of the U.S. game of playing for time — a policy which serves the Zionist aim. It added that U.S. diplomacy is currently trying to prolong the occupation of southern Lebanon as a prelude to annexing or securing strips of Lebanese territory.

Al-Ba'th says: The United States has used the Syrian stand as a pretext to justify the Israeli occupation of Lebanon, forgetting that Syria is, like Lebanon, an Arab country and is interested in Lebanon's stability. The United States is ignoring the source of the real threat to both Lebanon and Syria and is asking Syria to be the guardian of Israel's security, demanding forgiveness from the world for Israel's aggression and asking Lebanon to concede its independence as long as this serves Israel's security.

Concluding its comment, *Al-Ba'th* affirms that the U.S. efforts will not succeed because they are not sincere in serving the requirements of just peace, and because they aim to enable Israel to occupy more Arab territory and to pave the way for a new stage of Zionist aggression against the Arabs.

In a commentary entitled "What Is Important Is the Strength of Syria's Position," *Tishrin* says: The behavior of all the previous U.S. envoys has been characterized by the fact that they begin their missions by enquiring about what Israel wants them and their government to do, and then they consider the Israeli demands as U.S. conditions in the region. The paper adds: In their talks with Arab leaders, the U.S. envoys always use the appropriate words in each Arab capital they visit. This is one of the most significant weakness in the Arab position and the secret of Arab disunity.

Tishrin says: Syria has never been and will never be deceived. From the Syrian viewpoint, what is important is not the U.S. carrot-and-stick policy or the ability of this or that envoy, but Syria's political and military strength. The efficiency of Syria's position stems from its self-confidence and from the support of the Arab nationalists, and its trust in its friends in the world led by the friendly USSR. Syria adheres to the just Arab rights that Washington is trying to erase and liquidate by all the means at its disposal. U.S. envoy McFarlane must have known this and must have heard it in Damascus, the paper adds.

Monte Carlo: Khaddam Meets With Walid Junblatt

JN071831 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Telephone dispatch from Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris — live or recorded]

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, who arrived in Damascus from Amman.

It has been learned that the leaders of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement will hold an expanded conference tomorrow to discuss the latest developments.

Damascus on Phalangist Terrorism To Control Lebanon

JN071322 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The explosions currently witnessed by the Lebanese arena cannot but be considered a new cycle of terrorism against the Lebanese nationalist masses and an attempt to push Lebanon toward more ruination in implementation of the Israeli-U.S. plan to completely dominate that Arab country through the Phalangist Party and its armed militias.

What is taking place in the Lebanese arena cannot be separated from the common Israeli-Phalangist objectives against Lebanon and its Arab people. It is an attempt to terrorize and subjugate the Lebanese masses, who have rejected the agreement of submission just as they have rejected and resisted the fascist Phalangist Party's attempt to dominate Lebanon, dispose of its resources, and abandon its sovereignty, freedom, and honor.

The heinous crime in Tripoli and other acts of crime aim, among other things, at confusing the Lebanese nationalist forces and undermining the Lebanese concensus, which has declared its rejection and resistance, and begun to move with greater efficacy to topple the agreement of submission, to prevent Phalangist hegemony, and to foil the U.S.-Israeli plan to turn Lebanon into an Israeli-U.S. protectorate.

The planners of these crimes will be committing a grave error if they think for one moment that their plans and objectives can be achieved in Lebanon. These crimes have completely exposed the Phalangist Party and its militias in Lebanon and the region, because it has become obvious to all the Lebanese that the leadership of that party is no more than an agent gang which carries out Israel's orders in Lebanon. These crimes have also confirmed to all the Lebanese, without exception, that Israel is the main enemy of Lebanon and that anyone who collaborates with Israel or has agreed to make concessions to Israel at the expense of the Lebanese people and their freedom and national sovereignty is also the enemy of Lebanon and the Lebanese. If Lebanon's enemies inside and outside the country believe that playing with fire and acts of murder and massacres can pave the way for Phalangist hegemony and the implementation of the humiliating agreement of submission, they are committing a grave error, because these criminal methods will only further expose the enemies who are allied against Lebanon and its people from all factions and sects and will toughen the Lebanese stand so that every Lebanese will adopt the appropriate attitude toward the Phalanigsts and Israel and its ally, Washington.

In view of what we have said, dear listeners, a clear fact is confirmed: The agreement of submission which is to be imposed on Lebanon is considered as fallen, since it is rejected and resisted by the Lebanese people. Therefore, those who claim to be concerned about Lebanon should discuss Lebanon's problem by considering the attitude of the Lebanese people and respecting their wish. They should work for the withdrawal of the invasion force from Lebanese territory and stop backing the domineering, factional Phalangist government which is trying to establish the domination of the fascist Phalangists over Lebanon with the help of the Israeli invasion army and with U.S. backing.

The Lebanese people have said their word. It was said by the National Salvation Front, the nationalist figures, parties, and forces, and the Lebanese national resistance front. Those who claim to be concerned about solving Lebanon's problems should respect the wish of the Lebanese people, not work against these people with those who are laying in wait for them — the invaders and those trying to dominate them through suppression and terrorism.

We in Syria have clearly stated our position. We are with the Lebanese people and the unity, freedom, sovereignty, and the independence of that fraternal country. We are with its nationalist forces in their firm struggle to topple the agreement of submission, prevent Phalanigst hegemony, and to achieve Israeli withdrawal. We will spare no effort in backing our people in Lebanon in their battle regardless of the sacrifices.

IRNA: Iranian Envoy Meets With Foreign Minister

LD071016 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Damascus, Aug 7 IRNA — Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam Saturday said his country's stand is firm and no change should be expected following the visit of U.S. special envoy to Damascus. Khaddam was talking to the Iranian Ambassador Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashemi and referred to the visit of U.S. evnoy Robert McFarlane who arrived in Damascus Saturday and was due to meet President Hafiz al-Asad [word indistinct].

Khaddam who is also deputy prime minister said, "Syrian stand concerning the hostile moves of the U.S. and particularly the imposed accord signed by Lebanon and the Zionist regime will [words indistinct] any circumstances."

During his meeting the Iranian ambassador also discussed various other issues concerning bilateral [words indistinct] the latest developments in the region. Mohtashemi also gave a brief account of the victories of the Islamic combatants during the Val-Fajr II and [word indistinct] latest development in the region.

Khaddam said the victories of the Islamic (?combatants) were a great blow to the United States and its agents in the region.

Meanwhile, the Iranian ambassador also called on Syrian State Minister in External Affairs Faruq ash-Shar'.

Spokesman Denies Tanks Entered Israel Areas in Al-Biqa'

JN061332 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] The military spokesman has stated the following:

Today, 6 August 1983, the enemy radio cited the Voice of Lebanon radio as saying that two Syrian tanks entered, by mistake, the area under the control of the Israeli forces in western Al-Biqa'. This report is totally devoid of truth.

Israel Ready To Consider Syrian Withdrawal Formula

TA071455 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1445 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Israel will be ready to consider any Syrian-proposed formula for the removal of the IDF and the Syrian Army from Lebanon, including a proposal that Israel withdraw before Syria does. This was stated today by a senior government source in Jerusalem, who added that this is on the condition that by the end of the withdrawal all foreign forces leave Lebanon. This has been reported by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

IDF Radio Interviews Foreign Minister Shamir

TA051719 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1605 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on Gentlemen the Press program by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat, moderator, with Ilan Kfir and 'Oz Frankel — live or recorded]

[Text] [Ben-Porat] Good evening and here we are again with Gentlemen the Press and this time it is with Foreign Minister Mr Yitzhaq Shamir. Good evening.

[Shamir] Good evening.

[Ben-Porat] This time my journalist colleagues are Ilan Kfir, from *Ma'ariv* and 'Oz Frankel from the IDF Radio. Mr Minister, this week the new U.S. envoy, McFarlane, visited us. It seems to me that I would not be exaggerating if I said that it is not quite clear to the majority of the public why he came to us and they certainly are not clear about what the results of the talks with him are, if there are any. Mr Minister, perhaps you would update us as far as possible.

[Shamir] As is known, McFarlane was sent by the U.S. President to continue with Philip Habib's mission, that is, to reach some sort of agreement about the evacuation of the foreign forces from Lebanon, an agreement between us, Lebanon, the Syrians, and the PLO.

[Ben-Porat] Well, there are no problems with us, Mr Minister, with this aspect. We have made all the important announcements, we are also taking the steps, as far as is known. I understand that the problem is Syria. So what is he doing here?

[Shamir] The question really is a good one and sometimes we, too, have asked that question, but the answer is always that, since we are an important element in all this mess, so it is always worth consulting with us and it is worth consulting with us on every development and, since there are several factors in this Lebanese mess — Lebanon, us, the United States, Syria, the PLO, the Arab countries, and several of these factors sometimes change their positions from day to day — then it is essential to consult, to exchange views, to update oneself, and it is for this reason that he has come.

[Ben-Porat] You and the defense minister were in Washington just a few days ago and I understand that all the important questions were put to you there and you certainly gave all the authoritative answers from the Government of Israel. Has anything changed this week? Have there been any new questions and answers?

[Shamir] Nothing has changed, in any event, in everything involving our position. Regarding what McFarlane brought, he has brought thoughts, concerns, wishes of the Government of Lebanon.

[Ben-Porat] Excuse me, this will be my last question and then I will move over to my colleagues. Do the wishes also include a timetable?

[Shamir] There are wishes in Lebanon of which the essence is that a very clear impression should be given that Israel's redeployment means the Israeli desire and readiness to retreat to the international border in the not too distant future. This is due to the fact that there are various views prevalent that the meaning of the redeployment is the partitioning of Lebanon, or that it is Israel's fortification in an important area of Lebanon. After all, they would like — so we have been told — the impression to be made, through all sorts of announcements and agreements, the clear impression that Israel really does intend to evacuate Lebanon.

[Frankel] This being so, why are we opposed to that idea? On the surface, the presentation of a timetable fits in with Israeli policy in any event; McFarlane also says so. This is a question of an Israeli withdrawal which would depend on a Syrian withdrawal. Why oppose it? The United States wants it; Lebanon wants it.

[Shamir] It is not clear whether the United States wants it. These are questions, these are ideas; we have said and we repeatedly say that the redeployment is one step in the stage to the implementation of the agreement between us and Lebanon. That agreement, as is known, includes the principle of a withdrawal to the international border. That withdrawal depends on the evacuation of the PLO and Syria. Therefore, why add on more dates and more reservations. You know what could happen: People read dates, they say that dates depend on something; afterward, for some reason, that condition disappears and is eliminated, but the date remains. This is true all the more so as we also think that this does not add anything.

[Kfir] Mr Shamir, 2 days before your visit to Washington, Ambassador McFarlane met with an Israeli team headed by Ambassador Rosenne and he again raised the matter of the withdrawal and the setting of a timetable. In Jerusalem, McFarlane is again speaking of a timetable. Under certain circumstances, would the Government of Israel be prepared to consider a timetable, despite your previous answer, and what, in fact, are the terms for such a timetable, from Israel's viewpoint?

[Shamir] There was a meeting after I had left Washington, a meeting the same day I left, in which all sorts of ideas were raised which the team with whom he met was not authorized to decide on them at all, and it also rejected them from the beginning, and I do not think that the Cabinet will discuss any ideas which are also not proposals. These are not U.S. proposals. We are insisting on those things that were agreed upon in Washington, that is, the redeployment will be implemented by Israel on the date that was set and will be set by Israel. That redeployment is aimed at a withdrawal from all of Lebanon, when our northern border is guaranteed, that is, there will no longer be either the Syrian Army or the PLO terrorists in Lebanon.

[Kfir] Has Israel made any commitment whatsoever to the U.S. Administration and the administration in Lebanon that the withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali line will really be an interim withdrawal and not a final deployment?

[Shamir] We do not need to give any commitment in addition to our commitment in the agreement signed between us and Lebanon.

[Ben-Porat] Mr Minister, I do not know if it is a coincidence or if it was intentional when you spoke about a date for the redeployment; you said both we will set and you also said, will be set. The question is, what is precise here? Has that date already been set? You know it and perhaps you cannot say it? Or has it really not yet been set and it will be set?

[Shamir] It has been set approximately. Approximately, the timeframe has been set. The exact date will be set by the IDF.

[Frankel] Last week U.S. President Ronald Reagan, declared that there was now a joint strategy between Israel and the United States on the Lebanese problem, but it turns out that matters are not so simple. For instance, Israel suggested to the United States that it should convince, or put pressure on Lebanon to ratify the agreement. The Americans do not accept this approach. Israel proposed a political offensive against Syria, and here, too, it seems that the Americans are not buying the Israeli idea. Is there really full cooperation between Israel and the United States over the Lebanese question, or is this a question of joint strategy and different tactics?

[Shamir] Joint strategy was indeed determined and joint strategy exists along general lines. That does not mean that some sort of differences of tactical opinion cannot appear from time to time, particularly when there are additional elements — as well as the United States and Israel — concerned with this problem. Here, suddenly, some sort of proposal by the Government of Lebanon appears; tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, we will certainly hear something from Damascus, when McFarlane returns. This may well be.

[Ben-Porat] Will we hear something else than no? The eternal no of Damascus? Are you pinning any hope on.....

[Shamir — interrupting] I do not want to say anything today, before he gets there; however, on matters of this type, there may be various changes, there may also be surprises which must be discussed and reacted to and so we should not be surprised and get worked up about all sorts of possibilities that may arise, sometimes even by surprise.

[Ben-Porat] That is, there are differences of opinion between us and the United States on this problem.

[Shamir] I am not saying that there are differences of opinion. Some sort of differences do appear from time to time in talks. That does not mean that there are permanent differences of opinion between the institutions that make decisions in the United States and in Israel.

[Ben-Porat] Mr Minister, I am again returning to the Syrian issue. Do you not fear that, in some way, we might be caught in a trap on the Syrian issue? We say, and you explained it very well, and that is the government's policy, we will not leave or return to the international border until the Palestinians and Syrians leave there. If it happens, and there is the impression that they do not want to leave, does this mean that we will stay, I am not saying forever, but for a very long time somewhere in Lebanon?

[Shamir] That is the joint strategy we discussed with the Americans, how to use various measures to bring the Syrians to a change in their position, to their departure from Lebanon. After all, we must understand, on the other hand, that our objective is not the departure or removal of the Syrians per se; we want to guarantee the northern border, we want to be sure that after the IDF evacuates Lebanon, there will be no more massive terrorist attacks from Lebanese territory against Galilee. In the conditions prevailing at present, Syria and the PLO staying in Lebanon do not permit the border to be safeguarded and so we say: We will not leave until the border is safeguarded. The border will not be safeguarded until they leave.

[Ben-Porat] Perhaps the border could be safeguarded by an international, or Lebanese, or other buffer, which would permit us to leave?

[Shamir] I would suggest refraining from various speculations that are not practical. I only explained our thinking, the way we analyze; that should lead to a solution to this problem.

[Kfir] Mr Shamir, would it be exact to estimate that, in fact, Israel has conceded the principle of a simultaneous withdrawal with the Syrian Army and the terrorists and that, in fact, during the unilateral withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali line, it has opened a process of bringing the IDF home?

[Shamir] I do not think that we have conceded that principle here. We can keep our army in Lebanon as we see fit, as we regard as most convenient, most convenient, most safe, and there is no contradiction here of the principle of a simultaneous withdrawal.

[Frankel] Mr Shamir, you do not, on this broadcast, want to comment on the chances of McFarlane succeeding and this is understandable. In previous statements by you and other Israeli personalities, however, the feeling is that Jerusalem is very skeptical about the posssibility of the Syrians showing any sort of willingness to leave Lebanon. This being so, what is the point at all of a U.S. mission here? What is the point — after Philip Habib tried and did not succeed — of McFarlane coming here and again wandering around among the capitals in the Arab world for weeks and months when it appears that the chances of the Syrians' leaving are really minimal, if not nil?

[Ben-Porat] Perhaps it is just to maintain the momentum [last word in English] as the Americans say?

[Shamir] First of all, when there is a firm and aggressive U.S. desire to do everything possible to reach the evacuation of all the foreign forces from Lebanon, I do not think that we should be the one to deter the Americans from doing so. They have made a decision to work and persist in the effort to reach that goal. In addition to this, when we are skeptical, we are skeptical about whether nothing has been done to change the Syrians' position and so we proposed some sort of way of action which, in our opinion, can lead to this.

[Frankel] What is the method of action you proposed in Washington?

[Shamir] That method of action, in brief and in essence, is courageous cooperation between us, Lebanon, and the United States in order to create such a situation in Lebanon that will prove to the Syrians that they are not achieving anything by their rejectionism. That is, the Lebanese administration is becoming increasingly stronger; the cooperation between Lebanon and Israel is becoming closer; the agreement between Lebanon and Israel is being implemented; the U.S. status in Lebanon is becoming increasingly stronger. If the Syrian administration sees that this is the result of its rejectionism, it may rethink its choice.

[Frankel] That is, to confront the Syrians with faits accomplis, perhaps even put political, economic, and other pressure on them?

[Shamir] As I explained.

[Ben-Porat] Do all these plans also include the possibility of a disengagement of forces? Has the issue been discussed at all?

[Shamir] It arose from time to time. A disengagement of forces does not contradict all this approach. It can simply help to calm the tension and prevent conflagrations which nobody is interested in.

[Kfir] Has Israel already expressed willingness to move its forces to any certain line in the area of confrontation with the Syrians in order to stop that dispute?

[Shamir] Nobody has proposed any concrete suggestion for a disengagement of forces. The principle was discussed, that possibility. If such a possibility is raised, if it is practical, then a practical proposal will certainly appear and then we will refer to it.

[Ben-Porat] Gentlemen, I think we have concluded the Lebanese-U.S.-Israeli-Syrian complex [last word in English] unless there is another question?

[Kfir] With regard to the position of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, are you, as foreign minister, not disappointed with the Lebanese position in all the process? Sometimes it seems that, in fact, it is only Israel that is pressing for the Syrians' evacuation, while the Government of Lebanon — which should be no less interested than we are in such a process — is hesitating about approaching the administration in Damascus directly to evacuate its forces.

[Shamir] We have already been in Lebanon for a year — more than a year — and we know them well enough not to be disappointed. At the same time, the president of Lebanon said specifically, in the United States — he said it in sharp and very aggressive words — that he demands that Syria evacuate Lebanon and he even said and warned that the Lebanese people would take severe steps if Syria did not accede to that appeal. At the same time, the Lebanese have considerations of their own.

[Frankel] Mr Minister, Israel, and this is known, wants Lebanon to conclude the process of ratifying the agreement and again confront Syria with faits accomplis, but is there not some sort of a trap here? After all, in our agreement with Lebanon, it was decided that on the day it becomes valid, Israel will retreat from all Lebanese territory within 2 or 3 months. We are very much afraid of the target date, whether we are not marching toward a trap on this matter.

[Shamir] There is no trap, we are on safe ground, we signed an agreement and there are letters that accompany that agreement, whose importance is no less than that of the agreement, and they say specifically that the IDF withdrawal will be carried out within the framework of the withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon.

[Kfir] As far as I have understood, the United States has confirmed its acceptance of that letter, but it is not a partner to it.

[Shamir] It is a partner and there was full agreement and absolutely identical views, not only between us and the United States, also between us, Lebanon, and the United States. The negotiations that preceded the agreement were based on this.

[Ben-Porat] Gentlemen, let us move on to other issues. From the north, perhaps we will turn our glances, for a few minutes, to the south. We will ask the foreign minister to update us on relations with Egypt. Where do they stand?

[Shamir] Well, the relations with Egypt do not satisfy us at present. There is a formal agreement, there is a formal peace agreement; Egypt is, more or less, keeping that peace. As they phrase it, they are keeping and are faithful to the strategy of peace, but there is no normalization, there are no normal relations between Israel and Egypt. There is ceaseless incitement, anti-Israeli incitement in all Egyptian media and we know that in Egypt, in contrast to what happens here, the Egyptian Government has an influence over the media and, finally, the fact that the Egyptian ambassador to Israel was recalled to Egypt and to this day has not reached, has not returned to Israel; we regard this as a violation of the peace treaty. We also regard this as a violation of both the spirit and the word of peace and we are concerned.

[Ben-Porat] If this is so, has the time not come to take some sort of political step, perhaps an initiative by us, despite the fact that they may be the ones who should; perhaps it is worth making some sort of move, some sort of meeting on a higher level, instead of only saying these things over the media?

[Shamir] We are not satisfied with saying things over the media. We have a permanent conversation with them; there are contacts;

there are talks; there are various proposals; there are exchanges of views and evaluations; there is also, as is known, discussion between us and the United States about this, since the United States is a partner in the Camp David agreements; there is discussion between the United States and Egypt about this and discussion between us, the United States, and Egypt are continuing and will continue until, as I hope, relations improve.

[Ben-Porat] Is there no plan for a meeting between you and your Egyptian counterpart?

[Shamir] There is not yet any such plan.

[Kfir] Mr Shamir, perhaps we could move eastward, if possible, from Cairo, to relations with Jordan. If I am not mistaken, on your visit to Washington, the administration repeated its commitment to the Reagan plan. As against this, this week we heard the U.S. State Department's spokesman who, in fact, admitted that there was nothing to be done, the existence of the settlements had to be accepted. Is this a political turn on the part of the United States?

[Shamir] The U.S. Administration — whether through its various spokesmen, the spokesman of the U.S. State Department, the U.S. secretary of state, or the President himself — repeats every now and then that the United States continues to adhere to President Reagan's plan as it was published in his speech of 1 September. In this way, too, we were told, during our visit to Washington, although we did not go into, nor did they go into a discussion of this issue. It was recalled so that it should be known that that plan exists. What was said by the spokesman a few days ago — when he explained the U.S. vote against the Arab draft motion in the Security Council — I do not regard this as a change, any sort of political change. It does contain an acceptance of what Israel has done to this day in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. This, too, is an important step, but I would not say that it constitutes a political change, because the spokesman at once added that he regarded the settlements as an obstacle to peace, and so on, and so on, a position with which we do not agree.

[Frankel] Mr Shamir, not long ago you described our relations with the United States as a honeymoon. Is this really so?

[Shamir] No, I did not describe this as such; I said that this is what they are writing, saying, those who, a few months ago, wrote that we had reached — that the relations between us and the United States — had reached such an ebb that it would take many years for us to get out of that situation. They are now writing about a honeymoon. I did not exaggerate on the dark side then and I am not exaggerating on the rosy side now.

[Frankel] In any event, there is, I think, satisfaction in Jerusalem about current relations with the United States. What form does the improvement take, and what, in your opinion, is the background for it?

[Shamir] I think that there are good relations today. This has also been expressed recently in the matter of the cancellation of the restrictions on the F-16's; it is being expressed in all aid plans; and it is being expressed in the U.S. positive response to Israel's various requests in many fields.

[Frankel] The Lavi, too?

[Shamir] The Lavi, too, in a certain sphere. They do not accept everything we are asking for, but they have accepted some of what we asked and they are still discussing matters to which there is not yet any positive response. There is hope, however, that they will respond to them and this is also being expressed in the atmosphere, the existing atmosphere; this is an atmosphere of friendship, and the atmosphere also has importance in relations between countries.

[Ben-Porat] Is this only the result of the fact that we are approaching the beginning of election year in the United States?

[Shamir] I would not analyze all the reasons, particularly I would not enter into the matter of elections, which is a U.S. affair and we are always in the habit of not intervening in that matter, but there is no doubt that all those discussions and clarifications we have had — especially with Secretary of State Shultz — made a great contribution to the improvement in the atmosphere and the improvement of relations.

[Kfir] Mr Shamir, with your permission, we will go on with the tour d'horizon [last two words in French]. Recently you met in Geneva, if we can say this openly today, with the president of the Ivory Coast and, apparently, you discussed Israel's relations with that country with him, and Israel's relations with the countries of Africa altogether. Where do those relations stand and can we expect a breakthrough in Africa?

[Shamir] We have been maintaining many contacts recently with key people from African countries and we can point out that there is a real move in the direction of a renewal of the relations between us and various African countries. It is true that we have not yet come to a formal resumption of diplomatic ties, but we have the impression that we are coming closer, that we are approaching that moment. I would just like to point out, as an example, that about a month ago — more than a month ago — the president of Liberia, Mr Doe, appeared with an announcement which contained an appeal to all the African countries to renew ties with Israel and he added that such a decision by African countries would also serve peace in the Middle East. There are also various expressions of views in international arenas in which Africans do not support, or refrain from supporting various anti-Israeli resolutions of moves by Arab countries. I would point out here, for instance, Zaire's abstention in the latest vote in the Security Council. We also have many facts of abstention or absence by many African countries during many votes in various UN conferences when it was necessary to vote against Israel.

[Ben-Porat] Perhaps on this issue, Mr Minister, you would let us have a small scoop [last word in English]. Is it true that at this time — I do not know whether to say this in the past, present, or future — I say, at this very time there is a senior African minister in Israel?

[Shamir] I cannot say anything about details of these contacts, but if you ask me, then there is almost no week when there is not someone from the African Continent in Israel.

[Ben-Porat] Thank you for the hint. Ilan?

[Kfir] First of all, we think that this is great news from the foreign minister about relations with Africa and, if we refer to the announcement by the president of Liberia, what, in fact, is stopping such a president of a country, one of the most important ones in the continent, from getting up and declaring that, starting from another week, another 2 weeks, we are renewing diplomatic relations? Why are all those countries hesitating and all these things are only in secret meetings, whether in Jerusalem or in Geneva?

[Shamir] There are various reasons for the hesitation. There are also dangers they are taking upon themselves. You should especially understand that the African countries see themselves as members of the Organization of African Unity, they see themselves as belonging to a certain framework and every African country or, to be more precise, every leader of an African country, would like to take such a step together with his colleagues, the leaders of the other African countries, because this is a courageous step in the current conditions and these, in fact, are the main reasons for delay.

[Ben-Porat] They are great reasons. 'Oz, go ahead.

[Frankel] El Salvador, perhaps, El Salvador is returning its embassy to Jerusalem. First, perhaps you could reveal, a little, how such a diplomatic campaign is conducted? How does one convince such a distant country as El Salvador to take, to implement such a political move? And, second, I would like to ask whether, in the wake of this, Costa Rica is returning, has returned its embassy now El Salvador, can other countries be expected to take a similar step?

[Shamir] We maintain constant relations and contacts with all Latin American countries, small and large. One of the goals of our political activity is to bring their embassies back to Jerusalem and sometimes we reach such a stage in which a certain country decides on this and, the more countries there are that take that step, the more will join in, faster and faster. I certainly hope that after this move by El Salvador other countries will come to Jerusalem.

[Frankel] What is the diplomatic, or economic, or even military price we pay for such a step? What is El Salvador receiving in return — perhaps in return are words that are too hard-hitting, too hard — but, as recompense for bringing their embassies back?

[Shamir] There is no bargaining here, no buying and selling. It is difficult to evaluate the cost of such a step, but you know that Israel's possibilities are quite limited, everyone in the world knows this, and in the Third world, too, that Israel's economic resources are very modest. No economic aid from Israel can be expected, but it reinforces the friendship and sometimes friendship takes the form of aid, aid in development, aid in agriculture, aid in social services. Israel already has a tradition and also great experience in giving aid to developing countries in the Third World and, for some reason, almost all the countries of the Third World expect and want this aid from Israel and they think that this aid is more efficient and better than the aid they receive from much larger and more important countries than Israel.

[Kfir] Mr Shamir, to what extent is the war in Chad really convincing African countries that Libya and Arab countries like it are, in fact, the greatest danger, maybe the most immediate and tangible danger, to those countries and so it is worth their while to establish relations with Israel?

[Shamir] Chad and what is occurring in Chad is an important factor in the pan-African setup. There is no African country, there is no African leader for whom Chad is not his prime interest. They cannot accept the fact that someone is taking advantage of an African country's weakness and invading it or trying to impose a ruler on it who is not wanted by the African peoples. Therefore Al-Qhadhdhafi now appears to the African world as a force, as a dangerous factor who is jeopardizing the security of the various regimes in Africa and many of them are looking for ways to unite and cooperate and repel that danger.

[Ben-Porat] Mr Shamir, you spoke earlier about various types of aid to countries, especially in South America or Central America. I assume that this also includes military aid or the supply of weapons. I know this is a most sensitive issue and so I will satisfy myself with a general question: What is our policy regarding arms sales, who decides, who determines, is there altogether any sort of state body that discusses matters and decides to whom we sell, how much and what?

[Shamir] In general arms sales are not part of the aid. Israel does not intervene in the internal wars in the various countries through arms supplies or things that are worse than that, I would say, such as help in manpower or similar things as training; we keep away from such things, but we do sell arms. We have a weapons industry, the security industry is vital for us and its existence requires sales of arms throughout the world, together with very many countries that produce and export arms. There is a certain procedure that was determined long ago, of consultations between certain government ministries, between certain ministers, and....

[Ben-Porat — interrupting] Is there a permanent ministerial committee for this issue?

[Shamir] It is not a permanent committee, but it is a number of people, a number of ministers, who consult and decide to whom to sell and what to sell or to whom not to sell.

[Kfir] And they are authorized by the Cabinet and their decision is a Cabinet decision?

[Shamir] That is correct.

[Kfir] Thank you.

[Frankel] Mr Shamir, at the end of this month there will be a visit by the West German chancellor, Helmut Kohl, to Israel. This is an interesting visit, it arouses many questions, but it appears to me that what is most curious is, how is it that it is the Likud government, a party many of whose members opposed a renewal of relations with Germany some years ago, is the one that is receiving the chancellor of West Germany in Jerusalem?

[Shamir] The visit by the prime minister [as heard] of Germany to Israel is an important event from the aspect of Israel's international relations. West Germany is now one of the most important — if not the most important country — in the European Community and Israel's interests requires the Government of Israel to maintain relations and ties, as good as possible, with Germany. The visit by the prime minister of Germany is an expression of these relations and so we are doing this. Once it was decided to renew relations with Germany they must be maintained on a friendly level and one helpful to the State of Israel.

[Ben-Porat] Not long ago there was a dispute between us and West Germany over the question of the supply of weapons to Saudi Arabia. Where do matters stand today?

[Shamir] At one time, at the time of the previous government in Germany, the one headed by Schmidt, there were discussions there and there were reports about a decision regarding the sale of tanks, Leopard tanks, which was about to be made. We then worked very hard, there was also very serious opposition inside Germany, inside the majority party, too, at that time, the socialist party, and those sales plans were cancelled. Recently there have again been rumors that there are elements pushing for this, who are interested in it. As far as we know, there has not yet been any discussion about this in the German Government and there is certainly no decision about this. We are on guard, we have announced our opposition to the German Government — in the most specific way, our opposition to such a sale — and we will continue to oppose it and to do everything to ensure that such a sale is not implemented.

[Kfir] Mr Minister, one of the problems, not only Germany's, Europe's in general, is the problem of a shortage of work there. To this argument [last word in English] they certainly tell us, fine, we must maintain our industry, the weapons industry. What do we answer them?

[Shamir] The truth is that they do not give that argument [last word in English] to us because there are also other commitments by a country which must be considered against the fateful economic moment [last word in English]. The economic factor is not the only one. I think that if they were to decide that the economic factor was the only decisive one, then the policy of the European countries, the countries of the EEC, would also be completely different, let us assume, in everything involving ties with the Soviet Union.

[Kfir] Yes, heavy industry in Germany is certainly not influential in the West German Government.

[Shamir] It has influence, but Germany's economic situation is not so difficult and is not so catastrophic [last word in English] that it needs to consider giving preference to a certain interest which is not primary in their economy, to give it preference over a moral and historical commitment by West Germany not to supply arms to Israel's enemies.

[Frankel] Mr Shamir, recently we have been hearing about Israel's political attempts to come closer to two European countries with whom we have no diplomatic relations. One of them is Spain and the other is Greece. Perhaps, following on to the question, perhaps you could, in fact, define today's relations with Western European countries which were at an ebb during the first period of the peace for Galilee war?

[Shamir] Well, relations with the EEC countries have recently improved, primarily after the agreement signed between us and Lebanon, and they are in a process of improvement. Greece, as is well known, is a member of the EEC, it is now acting as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the EEC and, from them, too, there is actually a desire to improve relations with us, despite the differences of opinion on everything involving the Palestinian question, primarily, and there is an improvement in these ties. We have diplomatic relations with Greece, not full ones, and there is a trend today in the Greek Government toward improving the nature and quality of the relations. As far as Spain is involved, as you know, we have had no relations with them at all ever since the existence of the State of Israel and there is an ever-increasing trend today in Spain toward establishing these relations, since they see no reason for the absence of such relations, no reasonable, acceptable reason. There is pressure from Spanish public oipnion to make that decision and we have the hope and the feeling that the time of shoring up relations with Spain is coming closer.

[Frankel] Are there also direct contacts on the issue?

[Shamir] We have various contacts.

[Ben-Porat] Gentlemen, Mr Minister, we have 10 minutes left and I would like to move on, to fill up those 10 minutes with questions on domestic matters. 'Oz, you can open.

[Frankel] Mr Shamir, with your permission, we will return home to the long huts of the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem. The staff is angry. It claims that more than once there has been politicization of the Israeli foreign service and not necessarily politicization. As a rule workers from the outside are given preference in very important posts in the service over senior, skilled workers from the Foreign Ministry. First, I would like to ask whether you would be prepared to react to the claims and, second, we will refer to all sorts of statements by such people as Yisakhar Qatzir, Israel's consul-general in Atlanta — the intended consul-general. I do not know what the status of his appointment is now — who said that the MAPAI members have a stranglehold on the Foreign Ministry.

[Shamir] Well, that really is an affair which sometimes worries me. I will tell you, at first, when I came to the Foreign Ministry, it seems to me that a few months after I was appointed foreign minister, somebody who had been one of the founders of the Foreign Ministry in Israel came to me and told me that when Golda Meir — of blessed memory — came to the Foreign Ministry, she issued a grave order to be scrupulous about not accepting any worker who was not a member of MAPAI.

[Kfir] Is there any proof of this?

[Shamir] He told me, I did not look for proof, I believe him; of course there is, apparently, nothing in writing about this, but the intention was there, in those days, even people from, for example, MAPAM, and that order was indeed, apparently, kept. Nobody thinks that I should continue to keep that order that was given then by Golda Meir, of blessed memory.

[Kfir] Perhaps you are reversing it?

[Shamir] I am not reversing it because that would also be impossible. The Foreign Ministry has a certain composition and I must also say that I found excellent people in the Foreign Ministry. There are workers, really, whose level is higher than anything I have seen to this day in various ministries and I enjoy working with them and cooperating with them. If there are certain achievements gained by the Foreign Ministry's activity, then, to a great extent, those achievements must be noted down to the credit of these excellent workers. Sometimes, of course, however, there are differences of opinion between the works committee and the ministry's directorate and that is something usual and normal, but one should not exaggerate. It would be ridiculous to say that there are no appointments in the Foreign Ministry, or that somebody is not appointed because he belongs to the Alignment, because, in fact, most of the appointments are people who really are members of that party. Sometimes I try, when it is needed, to appoint people from other circles. There is agreement in the Foreign Ministry with the staff, an agreement that was made, again, this time, at the time of Yig'al Allon, of blessed memory, that the minister, the foreign minister, is entitled to appoint 15 heads of missions who are not from the Foreign Ministry staff and I have never deviated and I do not deviate from the framework of that agreement.

[Ben-Porat] Have you ever encountered a case — and, of course, not mentioning names — of a senior representative who, because he did not identify with the government's policy, did not fulfill his post well?

[Shamir] I cannot say. It is difficult to check such a thing. It is hard to examine and it is hard to check. It is clear that sometimes it happens that a man does not identify with the policy he is supposed to defend. However, practically and theoretically speaking, when Foreign Ministry positions become vacant, no one can demand that I not appoint men within the framework of the existing agreement, as other ministers have done before me. About the recent reports — in fact, why they proliferated, and what all the fuss was about — the fuss was about two appointments...

[Ben-Porat, interrupting] Washington and Sweden?

[Shamir] No. Not at all. There was a fuss about the appointment of an ambassador to Paris. A veteran Foreign Ministry worker who, I think, has been working in the ministry for 18 years, was appointed to that post. And there was a fuss over the worker who has been designated to fill the post of information officer in Washington. I can say that in both cases I have no idea about their political views or party affiliations. Therefore, one may criticize my decision, but where is the politicization?

[Frankel] On the same matter — you spoke about the information officer in Washington. The workers have a document you sent them in 1980 after Harry (Hurwitz) was appointed — without a doubt, a political appointment — information officer, in which it is written that that appointment does not constitute a precedent for the future.

[Shamir] Well, as I told you, there may be differences of opinion with a works committee, as there were then when Harry (Hurwitz) was appointed, and these may be discussed. I only wanted to say that there is no orientation or effort to politicize.

[Kfir] Two weeks ago, when the prime minister announced the cancellation of his visit to the United States, a wave of rumors swept the public with various interpretations of what personal reasons motivated him to take that step. As a senior Cabinet minister, and as one of the figures considered closest to the prime minister, can you describe his condition for us, how he functions [Shamir can be heard laughing in the background] and if there was truth to the campaign of rumors and reports?

[Shamir] There was no truth to any of the reports and rumors. I cannot add anything to what the prime minister's aides and his office spokesmen said. I came to this studio from a long and protracted meeting that was chaired by the prime minister. And I can only tell you that the meeting was conducted well, and in the most business-like and practical fashion.

[Ben-Porat] Perhaps, in any case, you know — and if you do know, you will surely not tell us — but just tell us if you do know. What was the meaning of those personal reasons the prime minister cited for cancelling his visit?

[Shamir] I was once asked that, and I answered that when a cultured man, who acts according to socially accepted manners, is told that I have personal reasons, he does not ask any more questions.

[Frankel] When one discusses the mood of the prime minister, this immediately touches on the matter of the war of succession in the Herut Party. [Shamir sighs] I know you do not like to talk about this subject, but let us take an example. At the last Herut central committee meeting, when Yigal Kohen-Orgad attacked the finance minister's policy, you — it is told — got up and left the auditorium. Are those your tactics in the Herut Party? Do you avoid differences of opinion and identifying with this or that camp? Are you trying to secure what is called a good place in the middle?

[Shamir] First of all, there is no war of succession in the Herut movement, because there is no need to succeed anyone today. There is a prime minister, and there is a Herut movement chairman; he continues to function and lead. Therefore, there is no war of succession. Regarding the incident you noted — which in itself is regrettable, since a man got up to speak there, and people shouted and interrupted him — it was only a coincidence that I got up and left. By leaving I did not express any position, nor was I asked to adopt a position at that time. There are those, however, who come up with groundless interpretations.

[Ben-Porat] Ilan, the last question.

[Kfir] Foreign Minister Shamir, though there is nothing you can cut in your ministry, we have never heard your opinion on economic matters. Are you not worried by the recent economic deterioration?

[Shamir] I am concerned about the economic problems that trouble Israel. I think, and everyone thinks, that measures must be taken to improve the situation, or create one in which we will be able to endure these economic difficulties. I always tell my friends, however, that one must also look at the other side of the coin; one must also look at the results visible in our society from the money that has been spent in recent years for various ends, that has to a large extent helped raise the standard of our society, especially that of the weaker classes. If you visit development towns today, you cannot recognize them compared to what they were more than 6 years ago. The neighborhoods that have been rebuilt; the living conditions that have improved; the children who today attend school, but who under the previous conditions dropped out; the higher percentage of people who continue studies after high school; the percentage of people today who pass tests to become Air Force pilots — this is a revolutionary change, which, perhaps in part, was achieved because we spent more than we could afford. Therefore, perhaps, we must amend this. The belt must be tightened. Perhaps, we must suffer for a while. This must be done, however, out of an awareness and recognition that the money was not wasted.

Deputy Premier Levi Comments on Lebanon Issue

TA051510 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 5 Aug 83 p 4

[Report by Shosh Peleg and 'Ezra Yanuv]

[Excerpt] "If Syria and the terrorists leave Lebanon, the IDF will also leave. Of course, we should try to reach an understanding with the United States, but we must also be faithful to ourselves and demand from an ally like the United States that it keeps all of its commitments."

These remarks were made last night by Deputy Prime Minister David Levi at a ceremony in which he was given honorary citizenship of Qiryat Mal'akhi by the head of the local council, Yosef Van Ono. Also at the ceremony were Deputy Housing Minister Moshe Katzav, MK Yiga'el Horowitz, and many local inhabitants.

Criticizing the questioning in the country of a defensive war like the one in Lebanon, Levi said that "when one gives up on such matters, the conclusion is known. We want a Lebanon that is sovereign and free of foreign forces, and that is also our interest."

"However," he went on, "when the U.S. representative returns to us and demands further amendments before going to Damascus and before considering agreements that have been reached with us, this indicates an erosion in the U.S. position and a lack of coordination. This shows weakness on the part of a superpower; this is a dangerous phenomenon; and this is deterioration. Also, when the other party, the intransigent one, continues not to yield, it has the feeling that the superpower will back down, and as a result one should warn against erosion, groveling, and deterioration.

Levi also criticized the Lebanese Government which signed an agreement with us in broad daylight and at the same time declares that it regards us as an invader. It is playing both sides regarding the IDF redeployment in Lebanon.

On the settlements in Judaea and Samaria, Levi said he was happy that the United States made a statement this week that "in a certain way amended [tikna] the U.S. position on the settlements. We are not annexing Judaea and Samaria. I will say openly, however, that a Palestinian state will not be established in Judaea and Samaria because that will endanger our existence. Autonomy is not annexation; nor is it a Palestinian state," he said.

Reportage on 7 August Cabinet Session

Schiffer on Agenda

TA070556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, in the studio — live]

[Text] The Cabinet may hear this morning about the ideas raised in the talks with Robert McFarlane, which mainly concern various formulas leading to the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. McFarlane, who is currently visiting Damascus, left Jerusalem encouraged, with clear signals that there is something to talk about with the Syrians. Reference is to the possibility of setting a timetable for the IDF's exit which is separate from that of the Syrian soldiers. McFarlane is also carrying ideas for a disengagement of forces between Israel and Syria in Lebanon.

The Cabinet will not be required to make decisions this morning since, justly enough, Ministers Shamir and Arens will be able to say that no real proposals have been raised, and matters have not reached such a ripe stage as to necessitate decisions.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir may also report this morning about the tough stance recently demonstrated by U.S. Vice President George Bush regarding the settlements. There was momentary joy in Jerusalem about the declaration by the State Department spokesman who said it is not practical to talk about dismantling the settlements. However, in a talk which was held afterward, a talk between George Bush and Israeli Ambassador to the United States Me'ir Rosenne a few days ago, it transpired that different voices can be heard in the U.S. Administration. Bush claimed that the settlements are a real obstacle to the peace process and Israel cannot explain to anyone why it is setting up settlements in the territories it occupies.

The talk, so I was told by political elements, was harsh and there are some elements in Jerusalem who regret that over the years the Israeli representatives have not managed to form continual and friendly ties with George Bush. However, one may find some consolation in the regular correspondence between Defense Minister Arens and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Over the last few days, too, there have been exchanges of very friendly messages between the two personages. Upon returning to Israel, Arens found Shultz' message, which arrived during his stay in

Washington, and replied to it without delay. Shultz has already ordered the establishment of a committee to examine economic aid to Israel, as agreed during Shamir's and Arens' visit to Washington.

Last but not least, next week Foreign Minister Shamir will leave for an official visit to Romania on an invitation extended to him by his Romanian counterpart. Minister Shamir will confer with President Ceausescu on a number of times at the latter's vacation resort, as well as with senior personalities in Bucharest. Romania wants to find a place for itself in the political process in the region and has recently announced an initiative concerning Lebanon. The Romanians have also invited President al-Asad and President al-Jumayyil for a visit. Minister Shamir will also discuss the overall peace process in the region and ways for solving the Palestinian problem. The Romanian president maintains tight contacts with the prime minister and the two leaders exchange messages regularly. As may be recalled, in the course of the Lebanese war Romania transmitted several messages from Yasir 'Arafat to Israel.

Shamir on McFarlane Visit

TA071152 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1146 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] At today's Cabinet session, Foreign Minister Shamir reported on U.S. Envoy's McFarlane's visit to Jerusalem. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that, in reply to a question by Minister Moda'i, Shamir said that McFarlane had not brought any new U.S. plans on the issue of removing the foreign forces from Lebanon, and all the publicity on this matter was groundless. This is what Shamir said. The ministers were told that Israel was continuing to maintain close contacts with the administration in Beirut and the various factions in Lebanon.

Field Forces Headquarters Approved

TA071452 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The Cabinet has approved the establishment of an IDF field forces command headquarters in accordance with the recommendation by the General Staff, following its approval by the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs.

Limited Field Command To Be Established

TA080538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Following the Cabinet decision to establish a field forces command in the IDF, only a limited framework will be established at first. Its continued activity will be decided according to the success of the first stage. The new command is to be headed by the commander of the armored corps, Major General Moshe Bar-Kochba.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the exact framework and authority of the new command has not yet been decided, but it is expected that some of the authority of the general headquarters branches would be passed on to it. The coordination between the headquarters of the armored corps commander, the paratroop and infantry commander, the chief artillery commander and chief engineers officer will begin soon.

IDF Redeployment To Be Completed Early September

TA081124 Tel Aviv 'Al Hamishmar in Hebrew 8 Aug 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Alex Fishman]

[Text] Barring unforeseen changes in the timetable, the IDF will have completed its withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf mountains prior to the holy days, in early September. Senior officers have told our correspondent that in their view, the IDF soldiers will celebrate the new year [8-9 September] along the new line, outside the Ash-Shuf mountains. One problem that has recently been discussed, in light of the redeployment, is now to control the crossing points along the new line, how to allow for civilian passage and the transfer of goods north of the line — the main problem being the city of Sidon — while at the same time preventing hostile elements from infiltrating southward, to the area controlled by the IDF. Apparently the Good Fence points will serve as a model for the new ones along the redeployment line.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Cables Mengistu on Chad Situation

LD071958 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The gravity of the situation in Chad and its tangible deterioration as a result of foreign intervention in that African country, which has assumed dangerous dimensions threatening the security and the stability of the entire region, is arousing the concern and preoccupation of the sincere sons of Africa. In this context President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN Party, has sent the following message to Mengistu Haile-Mariam, current chairman of the OAU:

I share with you your great preoccupation in the face of the deterioriation of the stiuation in Chad, where the latest developments are fraught with gravest dangers threatening even the existence of Chad and the national independence of all African countries. The OAU should rise up to the African people's expectation. It should shoulder its responsibilities and use its resources to find a solution in conformity with Chad's higher interests and with Africa's concerns.

I assure you once more of Algeria's firm determination to give you all support in the efforts you are still making and the initiatives that you could take to perform the mission entrusted to you by the bureau of the 19th OAU summit. Mr President and Dear Brother, please accept my highest appreciation.

Government Expresses Anxiety at Chad Developments

LD072102 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 83

["Text" of statement issued by Algerian Government on 7 August]

[Text] Algeria entertains deep anxiety at the extremely grave situation now developing in Chad. Africa's fears of the danger of the internationalization of a fratricidal conflict are thus well founded. The effects of foreign intervention are now multiplied by the open engagement of powers alien to Africa. Thus, the Chadian problem is assuming a dimension that takes into account less and less Chad's national interests and the legitimate preoccupations of the African Continent.

Is it necessary to recall, as President Chadli Bendjedid stressed in the message he sent today to President Mengistu, current chairman of the OAU, that the conflict in Chad concerns the Chadians alone, and that a settlement must be achieved through national reconciliation between the Chadian parties.

The tragedy experienced by the Chadian people requires that all states truly preoccupied with the future of Africa's greater interests on the one hand contain the Chadian conflict within its purely internal dimensions by stopping any intervention and, on the other hand, act to facilitate the efforts exerted by the OAU to find a solution to this painful conflict within the framework and the conditions defined on 16 July in Addis Ababa by the bureau of the 19th OAU summit.

Algeria, which always believes in the ability of the Chadian people and the OAU to attain this objective, remains fully prepared to work in this direction, as President Chadli Bendjedid reaffirmed in the message he sent today to President Mengistu, current chairman of the OAU.

LIBYA

Air Force Issued Orders on AWACS Planes

LD081506 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1443 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Aug (JANA) — JANA has learned that orders have been given to the Libyan Arab Air Force to strike at the American AWACS planes whereever they are if the Libyan Arab Air Force is certain that these planes could have any effect on Libyan Arab territory.

Statement on U.S. 'Aggressive Intentions'

LD071947 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 7 Aug 83

["Statement by Foreign Liaison Bureau on U.S. aggressive intentions against Libya" — JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 28, August 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The People's Foreign Liaison Bureau has issued a statement in which it exposed U.S. aggressive intentions and provocations against the Libyan Arab people. It described the false and unjust accusations by the U.S. Administration concerning a Libyan intervention in Chad as an insult to U.S. and international public opinion stressing that the U.S. Administration is fully aware that Libya is far away from the Chadian conflict currently taking place in Chad.

The people's Foreign Liaison Bureau said in its statement that the U.S. Administration's objective behind these accusations are:

1. To cover up for U.S. direct intervention in Chad and turn this African country into a zone of influence and military bases.

2. An excuse for aggression against the Libyan Arab people.

This is clearly seen in U.S. Sixth Fleet war vessels' moves including aircraft carriers across Libyan shores and their continued provocations as well as America's despatching of AWACS spying aircraft, fighter jets and thousands of soldiers equipped with various weapons to Egypt and Sudan which share the same borders with the Jamahiriyah allegedly to hold joint manoeuvres in the region.

3. To cover up for the occupation of the Arab homeland under the guise of wide-scale U.S. manoeuvres.

Therefore the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is appealing to international public opinion to shoulder its responsibility so as to put an end to this flagrant American threat against Libya. It also appeals to the U.N. Security Council to convene so as to shoulder its responsibilities in a way that would realise the security and peace of a U.N. member country.

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends Message to Andropov

LD051319 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution has sent a cable to Yuriy Andropov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee, concerning the current situation in the region.

Official Briefs USSR Ambassador on U.S. 'Threats'

LD051436 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Aug (JANA) — Brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary for foreign liaison, received this morning the Soviet ambassador to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. During the meeting the ambassador was informed of developments in the current situation in light of the American Administration's escalation of its threats and provocations against the Libyan Arab people. The Soviet Union has been informed of the situation and of the explicit American threat to the Jamahiriyah, which endangers peace and security.

Military Delegation Leaves for USSR 7 Aug

LD071454 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Aug (JANA) — JANA has learned that a Libyan military delegation left today for the Soviet Union. The delegation includes the Air Force chief of staff, the Air Defense chief of staff, the chief of staff of the Navy, and the director of military industrialization in the Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Arabs on U.S. Military Maneuvers

LD052125 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Aug 83

["Text" of message sent by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Arab kings and presidents — date not given]

[text] The landing of U.S. forces in Egyptian, Somali, Sudanese, and Omani territory constitutes, from all aspects, occupation of Arab territory. Even if they withdraw or appear to withdraw in the future, it constitutes preparation for future American occupation of these Arab territories. This in fact is another in a series of occupations of the Arab homeland, which started in 1948 with the occupation of Palestine and continued in 1982 with the occupation of Lebanon. Furthermore, it constitutes a serious insult to the Arab nation's dignity and a grave violation of its independence.

We, brothers, have to align ourselves with the peoples of the Arab nation in Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, and Oman in resisting the invasion by the American forces of these Arab countries, made under the pretext of defending these countries. Who has granted America the right to defend these countries, and against whom? The real danger comes from America itself.

Is there a harsher insult than for America to direct this danger at the Egyptian Army and the Egyptian people, at the Sudanese Army and the Sudanese people, and also at Somalia and Oman? It is insolant disregard [of the Arabs] and flagrant interference by a foreign force, the ally of the Zionist enemy in the Arab homeland. America has the right to defend only its territories, within the United States.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Al-Qadhdhafi Tells Security Council of U.S. 'Threats'

LD060906 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Aug (JANA) — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Fatih Revolution, has sent a cable to the chairman of the UN Security Council concerning the American military provocations accompanied by explicit threats of aggression against the Libyan Arab people which the Jamahiriyah is facing.

Tripoli on U.S. Forces in Egypt, Mubarak Role

LD051524 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The U.S. Administration has sent two spy planes to Egypt as part of the American military measures to threaten and attack Libya. The two American spy planes arrived in Egypt yesterday within the framework of the American-Egyptian military relations which were created and began to emerge on the scene of events after Egypt had become a Zionist American colony.

Four KC-10 planes, which are capable of air-to-air refueling, have arrived in Egypt. Two Air Force transport planes, one C-141 plane, 24 F-16's, and a mobile satellite communication base for direct contact with the American spy satellite have also arrived in Egypt.

In addition to this military hardware, arms and military aircraft, a huge military concentration of American Rapid Deployment Forces is being organized. These forces have been arriving in Egypt to take part in terrorist, provocative maneuvers being staged as part of the wide-scale preparations for American aggression against Libya.

As usual, Husni Mubarak, the head of the Egyptian regime, has disclosed what is being hatched against Libya via Egypt. He is now no more than an employee of the U.S. State Department used to serve and implement American policy. The Egyptian regime has been implementing a pro-America policy dedicated basically to the implementation of the imperialist reactionary plan in Chad as a prelude to the launching of an American-French-reactionary aggression against the Libyan Arab people.

Egyptian foreign policy, which is being implemented by the U.S. State Department employee, Husni Mubarak, in Egypt, is now devoted to serving the American objectives of expansion, aggression, escalation of tension, and the protection of the American agent regimes in Africa. Husni Mubarak's foreign policy has lost its independent role since the defunct As-Sadat declared that he placed all the cards in the hands of America. Thus, the Egyptian regime has lost all prestige in America just as it had lost it earlier in the Arab homeland and the group of nonaligned countries.

Because it has thrown itself in the lap of the United States, the Husni Mubarak regime no longer has the ability to remain nonaligned.

JANA: U.S. Military Cargo in Alexandria

LD071652 Tripoli JANA in English 1623 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Alexandria, Shawal 28, August 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The American transport ships "Colombia" and "Calaghan" have unloaded their huge cargo of U.S. arms and military equipment in the port of Alexandria. The "Colombia" was carrying military equipment of more than 1,000 tonnes. The "Calaghan" unloaded last Friday its military cargo including tanks, air defence equipment, personnel carriers and helicopters.

An unidentified source at Alexandria Port said that another American ship will arrive in Alexandria next Tuesday carrying military equipment.

It is worth mentioning that the Egyptian regime is still imposing a total media clamp down over U.S. military cargoes reaching Egyptian ports and ordered the closure of the desert road between Alexandria and Cairo to civilian traffic and pedestrians.

JANA Reports Sending of AWACS to Egypt

LD062030 Tripoli JANA in English 1425 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Washington, Shawal 27, August 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The spokesman of the American Defence Department Henry Cato said that the two American AWACS planes that arrived in Egypt are only there to take part in the Bright Star 83 joint manoeuvres between America and Egypt. This American allegation exposes flagrant contradictions that are particular to U.S. stands and are a proof of U.S. intentions and aggressive objectives arising from U.S. hostile plans.

The Pentagon had already officially announced the despatching of these two planes, stressing that the objective behind such a move is to supervise what he described as Libyan military activities in Chad. This was confirmed by American officials in the State Department as well as by American media quoting official circles in the U.S. Administration which said that the objective behind sending the planes was Libya.

The allegation voiced by the spokesman of the Defence Department is a confirmation of U.S. intentions, not a denial. Reagan's statements which included a strongly worded threat to launch war and aggression against Libya are evidence that this allegation by Cato is aimed at drawing attention away from the hostile objectives that America hopes to realise through its sending of the spying planes to Egypt.

Despite the total media clamp down in Egypt, officials of the Egyptian regime could not hide their surprise over the early arrival of these two AWACS. Therefore, no one can be fooled about the true intentions of America against Libya and no political observer can take for granted U.S. allegations behind which U.S. officials continuously try to hide.

JANA Political Editor Condemns U.S. 'Provocations'

LD060949 Tripoli JANA in English 0837 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 27, August 6 , JAMAHAIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S. has increased its provocations against the people of The Jamahiriyah. This comes in the context of its vicious schemes and its war mongering on the frontiers of the countries opposed to its anti-freedom polices against the people of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The head of the American Administration, Reagan, announced yesterday that the U.S. intends to pursue its manoeuvres of terror in the southern Mediterranean. After a meeting with the Zairean agent Mobuto, Reagan repeated his claims that Washington considers the Gulf of Sidra international waters. The American ministry of war on the other hand, ordered the American aircraft carrier 'Eisenhower' to remain near the Libyan shores while the Chadian international conflict over which Libya takes a clear stand continued. This is a bid on its part to threaten the Libyan people in the Gulf of Sidra which is an integral part of Libya's coastal waters. But the Libyan people will not give up this gulf whatever the sacrifices and is prepared to turn it into a sea of blod or die.

In the context of this American scheme of aggression against the people of the Jamahiriyah the U.S. set up an air bridge on Egyptian territory transporting two AWACS spy planes and 4 KC-10 tankers to fuel American planes in mid air and 2 more planes in C-141 type, 24 F-16 fighters and 2 more C-51 planes based in Anshas in Egypt. A satellite spy system was also installed by the Americans.

Observers confirm that the Arrival of such a number of planes has no connection with the "Bright Star" manoeuvres that are to take place in Egypt, Sudan, Oman and Somalia on the 10 August, but that everything has to do with American hostile intentions against the Libyan people.

The Libyan people's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Jamahiriyah has refuted the claims of the American war department that the American aircraft carrier 'Eisenhower' was currently carrying out patrols in the Gulf of Sidra. In a statement, the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison said that the Aircraft carrier did not come anywhere near the Gulf of Sidra as yet, and if it does it will be confronted because the Gulf of Sidra is an integral part of the Libyan waters.

The Egyptian regime is being tight lipped and has not revealed any information about such a number of planes in Egypt. While the Americans have spoken of the arrival of these planes, this shows the extent of complicity by the Egyptian regime with the U.S. in planning for aggression against Libya.

The political editor of JANA said in his commentary about American threats directed against Libyan people: Washington is pursuing the policy of threats against Libya by uhdertaking such steps both on the Mediterranean and on Libya's southern frontiers. Once again the American Administration is sabre rattling directly close to Libya's shores and on its southern frontiers with Chad. For the American Administration and other Western states together with its proteges in the area are making Chad a zone of continuous tension and the staging point of aggression against the independent and sovereign states in the African Continent.

The political editor of JANA reaffirms that this is not the first time the Reagan government resorts to muscle flexing and show of force against Libya because the Libyan people unveiled this conspiracy against them carried out by the American Administration a long time ago. This conspriacy has now become completely overt because Libya has become a stumbling block in the way of Washington's schemes of expansion. These threats and provocations have aroused angry reactions by the league of Arab countries, the progressive countries in Africa and the Arab Jamahiriyah condemning the American stand by which the American Administration intends to impose its domination against the Jamahiriyah by the show of its war vessels and planes near the shores of the Jamahiriyah. The Arab League has condemned the American stands and the acts of provocation carried out by American planes against Libya. It said America's negative and hostile stands and its use of the veto against resolutions condemning the repressive and settlement policy pursued by the Zionist enemy is equal to another stand which is just as dangerous and explosive, namely America's increasing of tension in the Mediterranean through what the American fleet and planes are doing by carrying out acts of provocation towards the Libyan Arab coastal waters. This can only be seen as an act of threat directed at an Arab country member of the Arab League. Chadli Klibi secretary general of the League of Arab states affirmed today that the acts of provocation carried out by the American fleet against Libya constitute yet another threat against a member country of the Arab League.

He concluded by saying that this American policy increases the deterioration of American-Arab relations in future.

Ethiopia also condemned the continued American military provocations against the Libyan Arab people. A spokesman for the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry described American military exercises close to Libya's shores as a blatant criminal act against the people of the Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that the American Administration is carrying out flagrant acts of provocation against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and called on the U.S. to cease immediately from continuing its perpetual acts of aggression against the Jamahiriyah.

U.S., France Coordinate Aggression Plans

LD072004 Tripoli JANA in English 1800 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 28, August 7, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — U.S. war vessels continue to unload more equipment, weapons, missiles and tanks. These war equipments are being transported in conjunction with the Egyptian regime to Chad as part of the continued arms supplies sent by the American administration in preparation for a treacherous attack against the Libyan people.

So far the military cargo of the U.S. transport ship "Calaghan" has been unloaded in an Egyptian naval base in Alexandria amidst extremely tight security measures. The Unloading of the U.S. "Trans-Colombia" which docked in Alexandria yesterday is underway now.

REUTERS News Agency said the two American ships were carrying vehicles, artillery, equipment and heavy arms.

The Alexandria-Cairo road together with side roads leading to them have been closed. U.S. and Egyptian intelligence men have tightened security over all the positions through which the transport of these (?elements) and heavy arms is carried out.

Washington's vicious acts, its despatching of AWACS, war planes and tanks to Chad are a testimony of U.S. aggressive intentions against Libya and its use of false allegations that are rumoured by its agents in Ndjamena, Egypt, Sudan and Zaire and aimed at justifying this attack despite the fact that this administration is fully aware the Libya remains outside the internal conflict in Chad among Chadian factions.

These intensive American military preparations that are now concentrated in Egypt, Chad and Zaire together with the flowing of arms supplies, and French Jaguar aircraft are a flagrant violation of international law and a blatant challenge to the will of the O.A.U., its role, responsibility and duty in finding an adequate solution capable of preserving the freedom and unity of the Chadian people.

The U.S. aggression being prepared by Washington against Libya in coordination with President Mitterrand's government must be thwarted. All the peace and justice-loving forces must shoulder their responsibility because this aggression will not only affect Libya but will be a warning against the explosion of the situation and a threat to the peace and security of the region. Crusaders must not have the opportunity to do what they want and satisfy their ambitions. Surrogate regimes must not be allowed to feel elated with the new crusaders' actions.

New Upper Volta Leader Telephones Al-Qadhdhafi

LD062116 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Aug (JANA) — The leader of the revolutionary uprising in Upper Volta, Captain Thomas Sankara, today contacted the leader of the revolution by phone. The leader of the revolution congratulated him on the success of the revolutionary uprising which brought down an agent regime that had ignored the real interests of the Upper Voltan people and devoted itself to serving Western objectives and policy.

The Leader of the revolution expressed to Thomas Sankara, the mass [jamahiri] leader, his highest esteem for the revolutionary act accomplished by the people of Upper Volta for the sake of strengthening their freedom, constructing their country's future, and enabling it to perform its role in confronting imperialism.

Capt Thomas Sankara stressed to the leader of the revolution that the revolutionary uprising which erupted the night before last in Upper Volta was dictated by the interests of the Upper Voltan people who participated, with their active forces, in the success of this uprising and in establishing full control over the situation in the country.

SUDAN

Numayri Appeals to Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi

JN061126 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Aug (SUNA) — The following is the text of Numayri's message to Presidents al-Asad and al-Qadhdhafi:

From Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, to President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, and to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, president of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah:

Peace be upon those who follow the right path.

To be truthful to God, myself, and the nation necessiates that I address you, reminding you that history, which might not absorb the glory of all of its makers, will not forget the slips of the leaders that stained its pages with blood, intentionally aborted its course, and changed unity and accord into disunity and discord. God never forgives and history never forgets those who advocated, participated in, and assisted sedition. God will not forgive and nations will not forgive those who besieged them while they faced a difficult crisis, thus helping them enemy instead of championing them. I can only see in the nation to which you are affiliated what I have said of you. [as received]

Lebanon has enough trouble in being divided and disunited, facing the numerous confrontations of a deep-rooted enemy that occupied its land and in having an ally, which instead of protecting its territory is shedding the blood of its sons.

The Palestinians have enough trouble in being divided, with their blood being shed by you and by their enemy. They are being killed in southern Lebanon and in Hebron and in Al-Biqa'. They are prisoners of your ambitions and the target of your conspiracy.

Iraq has enough trouble with its crisis with its enemy, which is also your enemy, and now you have stood alongside its enemy. Guidance, forgiveness, and compassion come from God. There is no way for forgiveness and atonement except through returning to right.

You must stop harassing Lebanon. You must stop harming the Palestinians. You must stand alongside Iraq. Even if you do not support Iraq, do not stand against it.

God guides whom He wishes. Peace and God's blessings be upon you.

CHAD

Reportage on Fighting Near Faya-Largeau

GUNT Motorized Column Spotted

AB051558 Paris AFP in French 1547 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Aug (AFP) — According to reliable Western source in Ndjamena, a strong motorized column composed of troops loyal to former President Goukouni Oueddei was sighted on Friday near Faya-Largeau, in the northeastern part of the town. The same source also disclosed that a column of Russian-made armored vehicles, namely "T-62" and "T-72" vehicles, is situated 250 kilometers to the northeast of Faya-Largeau at a place called "De Gaulle Circle."

Finally, according to the same source, the palm grove of Faya-Largeau, located in northern Chad, was under bombardment throughout Thursday. It was also noted that these Libyan bombardments are now being carried out by larger groups of planes, that is, by groups of four to six bombers.

Government Lacks Air Cover

AB051705 Paris AFP in English 1646 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, Aug 5 (AFP) — Official Chadian sources here said that Libyan involvement had reached a new height with the bombing of Faya-Largeau and the town of Oum Chalouba and Kalait to the southeast.

Unofficial sources added that while the forces of President Hissein Habre may have shifted in the latter two localities under pressure from the bombardments, they were still "solidly held" by government troops.

According to a Chadian source, the government forces felt able to hold their positions on the ground, but lacked air cover to "clear the skies of Libyan planes."

Libyan Plane Shot Down

AB071248 Paris AFP in English 1238 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Paris, Aug 7 (AFP) — A Libyan plane has been shot down by the Chad Government forces and its pilot captured at the northern town of Faya-Largeau, the Chadian charge d'affaires here, Ahmad Allam-mi said today.

The Soviet-made Sukhoi-22 was shot down on Friday with a SAM-7 missile, the diplomat said. He added that the pilot, who ejected and landed by parachute, was captured only yesterday. Mr Allam-mi identified the pilot as Major 'Abd al-Salam Mohamed Charfadine, and said he was the commander of Libyan aerial operations in the region. He said that the Libyan officer had 16 aircraft under his command, all of them based in the Aouzou Strip, which is on the border between Libya and Chad and which the government in Ndjamena claims. According to the Chadian diplomat, Major Charfadine also said under questioning that he had studied in Cairo and later the Soviet Union.

The government of Hissein Habre says that Libyan planes have been bombing its forces, which are fighting those of ex-President Goukouni at Faya-Largeau in particular. The Libyan authorities and the Goukouni forces deny that there has been any bombing by Libyan planes.

Zaire To Send 700 More Soldiers to Chad

LD081329 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Zaire is to send an additional 700 soldiers to Chad in order to help the government of President Hissein Habre stand up to the rebellion supported by Libya. The ZAIRIAN PRESS AGENCY has just announced this.

President Habre Returns to Ndjamena During Lull

LD061331 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The bombing and fighting in Chad have apparently stopped for a while. Everyone is waiting, but waiting with weapons in hand and with increased vigilance. Intense preparations are undoubtedly underway in both camps. According to official Chadian and French sources, a column of GUNT forces loyal to Goukouni Oueddei are reportedly moving from the north toward Faya-Largeau. The column may be equipped with a number of tanks. The battle that is being prepared for the government-controlled palm grove of Faya-Largeau will most certainly be a fierce one. Further south, according to American sources, the localities of Oum Chalouba and Kalait are said to have been recaptured by the forces of Goukouni Oueddei, the enemy of Hissein Habre. This fact contributes to a further isolation of the Faya-Largeau garrison.

The Chadian president, of whom there has been no news for several days and whose possible death has repeatedly been announced by the official Libyan news agency JANA, is in fact back in the capital following a stay of several weeks on the battlefield. According to a correspondent in Ndjamena whom we contacted this morning, the president yesterday received the French ambassador at presidential headquarters in an audience which lasted for more than an hour.

Habre Holds Press Conference 6 August

Asks French Air Force Aid

AB061400 Paris AFP in French 1343 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 6 Aug (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre renewed his call on Saturday for France to "intervene directly through [its] air force" in the face of "Libyan aggression" against Chad.

At an afternoon news conference in Ndjamena, he pointed out that he did "not intend to dictate what France must do." He stated that "the arrogance of the Libyan regime normally affects the dignity, influence, and honor of France" more than Chad. But, he added, "the problem depends only on the French Government and its leader, President Francois Mitterrand."

President Habre also stated that "the Libyans want to totally destroy Faya-Largeau" in northern Chad through their "intensive and blind bombings." He added that it is a true "act of genocide" and that the people are trying to protect themselves. But, he said, "it is difficult to move about in daytime" because of the bombings by the Libyan planes, which "arrive in successive waves."

According to the Chadian head of state, the fighting potential of the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] is "intact, because these bombings affected neither them nor the Libyan equipment which was recovered in the field following the recapture of Faya-Largeau by the FANT on Saturday, 30 July.

U.S. 'Should Do More'

AB061510 Paris AFP in French 1444 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 6 August (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre affirmed on Saturday that the United States is providing military aid to the Chadian Government not only beacause the latter requested it, but also "because America is worried that Libyan aggression compromises world balance."

Speaking during an informal news conference attended by about 30 Chadian and foreign journalists, President Habre stated that "the ambitions of Al-Qadhdhafi (the leader of the Libyan revolution) are one thing," but "it is the Soviet Union that is taking advantage of them to destabilize Africa." "Therefore," he added, "people should not blame us for asking the United States to help, nor should they blame the United States for doing so." He observed that "in any case, the help that has been provided thus far is insignificant, given the magnitude of the Libyan aggression" against Chad.

"We are happy about the firm position adopted by the U.S. Government toward Libya's activities in the world," continued the Chadian head of state, "but we insist that the U.S. Government should do more."

Further on Habre Appeal

JN071830 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 7 Aug (SUNA) — Chadian President Hissein Habre praised the position which the U.S. has adopted toward Libyan activities in various parts of the world, describing it as a firm stand. He called for increased U.S. support for Chad to maintain the balance of power.

On cooperation between Chad and France, the Chadian president explained to the press today that France, as a country with both a historic responsibility toward Africa and interests there, must act taking these factors into account. Habre indicated that the Libyan aggression against Chad harms France as much as it harms Chad.

President Hissein Habre added that in the past, he had supported the French presence in Chad during the rule of former Chadian President Felix Malloum because he believes that the French presence is important for confronting the Libyan threat to Chad.

Criticizes French 'Libyan Lobby'

JN071122 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Aug 7 (SUNA) — Chadian President Hissein Habre last night reiterated that the Aozou region occupied by Libya is a Chadian land and had never been a Libyan territory in the all historic phases. Habre refuted the Libyan claims in the region saying that the region was the original land of the Chadian tribe of Tihbou and had not been under the Libyan rule even in the presence of the French rule in the country.

Habre unveiled that the Libyans had persistently endeavoured to annex the region particularly during the rule of President Tombalbave when they began polarizing the Chadian people by distributing identity cards.

Mr. Habre described the present Libyan air raids as a new genocide of the Chadian people.

President Habre said that government forces were in full control of Faya-Largeau despite continued Libyan air raids on the northern oasis town. But he accused senior French officials of blocking delivery of weapons needed to fight off the raids. Naming two officials, one of them close to French President Francois Mitterrand, Habre told reporters the existence of a Libyan lobby within the Paris government explained why France was not providing air cover.

Anti-aircraft weapons including 20-mm guns have arrived from France. Military sources said they were either on their way or had already arrived on the northern front where former President Goukouni Oueddei, striving to regain power, has made his military thrust. But France has said it will stick to the letter of a 1976 military cooperation agreement barring outright intervention.

Habre said the agreement authorises France to fly to Chad's support in case of external aggression and that Chad was the victim of a full-fledged attack on its territory from Libyan troops and Air Force. Oueddei's rebels were fighting alongside the Libyans as mercenaries, he said.

France must decide what action to take according to the reality of the problem, Habre said. He added that France, which has strong interests in Africa and elsehere, must play its part in the current conflict. France must act firmly and take its responsibilities. If it does not it may have to pay the consequences of what is happening in Chad, Habre said.

More on 'Libyan Lobby'

AB061755 Paris AFP in French 1451 GMT 6 Aug 83

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Ndjamena, 6 Aug (AFP) — Chadian President Hissein Habre today renewed his call for France to "intervene directly with [its] Air Force" in the face of "Libyan aggression" against Chad, and denounced the presence of "pro-Libyan lobbies in France," violently attacking two French officials.

Speaking to some 30 Chadian and foreign journalists during an "informal" press conference, President Habre explained that "the pro-Libyan lobbies which exist in France make their calculations based on mercantile considerations." Referring to them as "grocers," he accused them of "hiding the truth, and minimizing and disregarding" the Libyan intervention in Chad. Those he cited are Guy Penne, special adviser to President Francois Mitterrand on African and Malagasy affairs, and Guy Georgy, the current French ambassador to Algeria who formerly held the post of director of African and Malagasy affairs at the French Foreign Affairs Ministry at the end of President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's 7-year term of office.

Emphasizing that Guy Penne wanted to create "divisions" within the Chadian Government, especially between himself and his minister of foreign affairs, Idriss Miskine, the Chadian head of state explained that these officials "know nothing about the problem," a fact that leads to the "falsification of French politics." "Fortunately," Mr Habre continued, "there are the representatives of greater France who try to face the situation squarely in order to help Chad safeguard its independence and preserve France's influence and friendship in Africa."

Renewing his call for "direct intervention by the French Air Force" in the face of "Libyan aggression," Mr Habre underlined that "normally, the arrogance of the Libyan regime affects the dignity, reputation, and honor of France" more than it does Chad.

Apology Made to Penne

AB071245 Paris AFP in French 1200 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Paris, 7 Aug (AFP) — The Chadian charge d'affaires in Paris, Ahmad Allam-mi, presented the Chadian Government's apologies Sunday morning to Guy Penne, adviser to the French president on African and Malagasy affairs.

During an "informal" press conference attended on Saturday by Chadian and foreign journalists, President Hissein Habre said that "pro-Libyan lobbist in France reckon in terms of money" and cited Mr Penne. Describing them as "money-minded people," President Habre accused them of "hiding the truth, minimizing and denying" Libyan intervention in Chad. Hissein Habre also cited Guy Georgy, the present French ambassador to Algeria and former director of African and Malagasy affairs at the French Foreign Ministry toward the end of former President Giscard d'Estaing's term of office.

Mr Allam-mi told AFP that "all ambiguities have been cleared up," and described the matter as a "misunderstanding." "Attempts to isolate President Hissein Habre from his foreign minister, Idriss Miskine, date back before 10 May 1981, and are all part of Libya's machinations," he added.

GUNT Spokesman Again Denies Libyan Air Support

AB071455 Paris AFP in French 1422 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Brussels, 7 Aug (AFP) — On Sunday, the representative of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) in Belgium again denied categorically that "imaginary bombings by Libyan planes" took place at Faya-Largeau, Chalouba, and Kalait. [as received]

In a statment issued in Brussels, Issaka Ramat Alhamdou, representative of Goukouni Oueddei's movement (?said) [words indistinct] the National Liberation Army (ANL) continues to condemn these bombings, the aim of which is to receive additional military aid."

The GUNT is also happy that "the military aid provided by France, the United States, and Zaire to Chadian President Hissein Habre has not succeeded — as Hissein Habre wanted at all costs — in bringing Libya into a declared confrontation with the Americans and the French in Chad, who are acting through the soldiers of the FAN and Zaire."

GUNT Accuses French of Using IRC Cover

AB071955 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Statement issued by Presidency of Transitional National Union Government in Bardai — date not given — read by announcer]

[Text] The Presidency of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] wishes to inform the general public of the following:

In accord with the letter and spirit of the message sent to them, the rebel Hissein Habre and his fighters were given every opportunity to lay down their arms and join the ranks of the National Liberation Army [ANL]. The heavy artillery fire on Faya-Largeau stopped. Taking advantage of this respite and the goodwill of the GUNT in sparing the lives of Chadians, the French interventionists landed at Faya in a helicopter bearing the colors of the International Red Cross [IRC] in order to save the rebel Hissein Habre. This is an act of piracy which is detrimental to a humanitarian organization, and the revolutionary forces abstained from taking over the aircraft with the markings of the International Red Cross due to their scrupulous respect for international conventions.

The GUNT regards this act of international banditry as a direct and typical intervention by France into Chadian affairs. It reserves the right to prejudge the consequences of this act.

Furthermore, fighters currently on the battlefield are urgently asked to lay down their arms and join the ranks of the ANL. The poor fighters must understand that their leader has abandoned them and run away.

Bardai Broadcasts Appeal by Habre Minister

AB072110 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The following has been announced on our network before. Some people believed it while others remained skeptical. So, for those who have ears but do not listen, Lieutenant Colonel Tatola Ngartokete, the so-called minister of establishments in the national annihilation forces is in the hands of the National Liberation Army (ANL). Without wasting time, we invite you to listen to the call he is making to other FAN fighters to lay down their arms and stop fighting for an unjust cause which is already doomed to fail. Let us listen to him:

[Begin Ngartokete recording] [Passage indistinct] I advise you to rally around the National Liberation Army of Chad, which is only fighting for your [word indistinct] and security and wishes you happiness. The legitimate government headed by President Goukouni Oueddei is the only legal government of Chad. Neither America, France, Sudan, nor Zaire can solve the Chadian problem. [Words indistinct] America was unable to ensure the security of the blacks [words indistinct]. Lay down your arms and join your brothers of the National Liberation Army. As for me, [words indistinct] between my brothers, and I want to fight on their side until victory is achieved in order to eliminate the rebel Hissein Habre — the cause of the misfortunes of all Chadians. Our (?suffering) people, national liberation is a duty. [end recording]

Radio Bardai Hails Coup in Upper Volta

AB060835 Paris AFP in French 0722 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Niamey, 6 Aug (AFP) — On Friday night, the radio station of former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] hailed Captain Sankara's military coup in Upper Volta as a "great piece of news welcomed by all progressives and those areas of Africa which are truly independent."

The GUNT radio, which claims to be transmitting from Bardai, in the Tibesti, monitored in Niamey (Niger), carried a communique from the "GUNT ministry of external relations" in which the view is set forth that the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], which took over power on Friday, is "the popular emanation of these people's desire" and the declaration is made that the GUNT recognizes it as "the only legal and legitimate government of the Upper Voltan people."

The communique went on to say that "the Chadian people, who are engaged in a revolutionary war against French-U.S. imperialism and its local lackeys, cannot remain indifferent to the brotherly people of Upper Volta in their revolutionary struggle against all reactionaries serving imperialism in Africa and throughout the world."

"The return of Thomas Sankara, the great African patriot, to the head of the Upper Voltan state," the communique adds, "is a decisive turning point in the permanent struggle of the African masses for their rehabilitation in the face of history."

The communique recalls that Capt Sankara was arrested on 17 May 1983 and dismissed from the then ruling People's Salvation Council by President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. The dimissal was, according to the communique, "orchestrated by imperialism and its local lackeys."

NIGER

'Instability,' 'Political Tensions' on Borders

AB062205 Paris AFP in French 1759 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Niamey, 6 Aug (AFP) — Radio Niger today issued an "alarming report" on the instability and political tension which reigns along the country's borders, and asked all Niger citizens to "keep cool and calm." Without ever mentioning Libya, the country which borders it to the north, Radio Niger referred successively in its commentary to Chad (at its eastern border), "which is always battered and which has not yet regained its stability or calm," Nigeria (in the south — the two share a 1,000-km border) "which is trying its hand at democracy," and Upper Volta (in the west) "which is still searching for its political stability."

Niger, continued the commentator, hopes that these countries will find their internal peace as soon as possible, "because any upheaval within their borders will extend to our country." In addition, the radio stressed that "geopolitical and strategic considerations expose certain countries more than others to the risk of becoming destabilization camps.....Naturally, Niger's geographical situation makes it a country that is genuinely threatened with insecurity." "There can never be development without security, or under conditions of disorder, instability, agony, and disunity," the radio continued.

Calling on all Niger citizens "to keep cool and calm," the radio emphasized that "this...calm does not mean blindness and naivete. We must organize and mobilize ourselves in order to be able to distinguish our friends from our enemies, and to be able to uncover the agents of disorder, manipulated pawns, and manipulators."

NIGERIA

Reportage on Presidential Election Process

Soldiers, Police Prepare for Balloting

AB051920 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Soldiers have started to take over the manning of strategic checkpoints from men of the mobile police force. This is part of the arrangements to enable the Nigeria police force to have enough men to man all the polling booths as well as perform other election duties.

A radio Nigeria correspondent reports that the soldiers were conducting detailed searches of vehicles passing through the checkpoints. Our correspondent said that this resulted in a heavy trafic jam on the Lagos-Ibadan expressway stretching to Ejota on the Ikorodu road.

High Turnout, 'Technical' Problems

AB071405 Paris AFP in English 1325 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Lagos, Aug 7 (AFP) — Nigeria's presidential election went off calmly throughout the country yesterday, according to reports here today, which also spoke of a high turn-out despite some technical problems.

Only the press in the west of the country, which traditionally supports the Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) led by presidential challenger Obafemi Awolowo spoke of incidents, at Oshogbo in the west. The Ibadan *Daily Sketch* said five houses and some vehicles were burned.

In Lagos there were rumours of the arrest of several people for ballot-rigging, some even said to have been in possession of ballot boxes, but this could not be confirmed.

On the other hand many national dailies today mentioned technical problems marring what was the first of a series of federal and state legislative and executive elections to be held in Nigeria this month.

In some districts of Kaduna in the north, voting could not begin until towards midday or early afternoon due to an absence of electoral material. The general impression is that the Federal Electoral Commission (Fedeco) which has the task of organising the voting has not lived up to hopes. Every one of Nigeria's 19 states reported either a lack of electoral material, a late arrival of electoral officers or even confusion in the electoral registers.

Chief Awolowo, the main opponent to incumbent President Shehu Shagari, had to wait three-quarters of an hour at Apapa in Lagos's port district before being able to cast his vote, because of delays in getting the poll under way.

The streets of Lagos, normally teeming with human life, were yesterday remarkably deserted. But today street sellers had laid out their displays anew, while colourful crowds thronged to the churches for Sunday services.

The counting of votes was meanwhile taking place in the electoral commission's various offices throughout Nigeria. At least 20 million people were believed to have voted, a reliable source said.

Police Inspector General Warns Media, Public

AB071640 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The inspector general of police, Mr Sunday Adewusi, has warned radio and television stations announcing unverified election results to desist from doing so immediately. He described the action of a media house as a calculated attempt to confuse members of the public with the intention of creating uncertainties which might lead to a breakdown of law and order. The inspector general, who was speaking with journalists in Lagos today, explained that stern measures will be taken against the media houses which refused to heed the warning. Mr Adewusi advised members of the public to disregard election results which are not confirmed by the Federal Electoral Commission, in the interest of peace.

Commenting on the incidents that happened at Ashogbo, Oyo State yesterday, the inspector general of police disclosed that 37 persons have so far been arrested. He said a mobile police unit might be drafted to the area with instructions to shoot at sight if the people refuse to be law-abiding.

On the security arrangements made for yesterday's presidential elections, Mr Adewusi described them as perfect.

UPPER VOLTA

Likely Composition of New Government Reported

AB071615 Paris AFP in French 1434 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 7 Aug (AFP) — According to reports from observers in the Upper Voltan capital, the situation is calm throughout the country three days after the coup d'etat that brought Captain Thomas Sankara to power at the head of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR].

The composition of the new military government has not yet been made officially announced, but a reliable source confirmed that the principal members will be drawn from the radical faction of the People's Salvation Council [CSP] which was headed by Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and which governed the country from 7 November 1982 to 4 August 1983.

The "second in power" in the CNR is Major Jean-Baptiste Boucary Lingani, the former secretary general of the CSP Permanent Secretariat. The same source mentioned Captain Blaise Compaore, who led the para-commando group at Po (165 km south of the capital), which revolted against the arrest of Capt Thomas Sankara on 17 May and which refused to yield until he was freed in early June, as well as Second Lieutenant Hien Kilmite, a former deputy secretary general of the CSP.

The Upper Voltan National Radio announced this morning that important demonstrations of support for the new regime were held in Bobo-Dioulasso [365 km to the west of Ouagadougou, and the second largest town in the country], and at Quiahigouya (185 km to the south of the capital). According to recorded radio reports, the demonstrators, mostly youths, marched past shouting "Long live the revolution," "To hell with imperialism," and "Sankara, Sankara."

In addition, Maj Lingani told AFP that all provincial units of the Army, including those, like the unit at Ouiahigouya and Dedogou (235 [not further specified] northwest of Ouagadougou), that are suspected of being against the CNR. The AFP correspondent also remarked that the important military personnel who had stationed with the Joint Services Regiment — the base of the Armored Group — until Saturday have been removed.

On this issue, Maj Lingani explained that, apart from former President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and his internal security minister, Major Harouna Mone Tarnada, no other person has been placed under house arrest. He gave assurances that "no civilian member of the former government has been arrested or given cause to worry; they are all free to move about."

Another reliable source also asserted that Colonel Yoryan Some Gabriel, the former chief of the defense staff and secretary general of the National Defense Committee, has not been arrested, contrary to certain reports. "We have no intention of arresting him," the source added.

On the other hand, the same source confirmed that the number of victims during the coup still stands at 5 dead (2 soldiers and 3 civilians) and "less than 10," 6 of them French nationals, wounded.

Informed sources say that Capt Thomas Sankara, the country's new "strong man," will hold a press conference shortly in Ouagadougou; however, the curfew is still in force today from 1900 GMT to 0530 (also local time).

AFP Gives Sankara's Background

AB051605 Paris AFP in English 1511 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Paris, Aug 5 (AFP) — The latest coup d'etat in Ouagadougou would, if its leader Captain Thomas Sankara consolidates his power in Upper Volta, signify a powerful return of Libyan influence there, observers believe. And this would increase the fears of governments in several other African states, in particular neighbouring Niger, which also has a border with Libya, as well as cool relations with Paris, in the view of observers.

Before being ousted as prime minister to head of state Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo in May, Captain Sankara had not disguised his sympathy for the regime of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and "progressive" states. His first official visits abroad were to Libya and North Korea, and without reference to the head of state, he set up a surprise visit to Ouagadougou on May 1 by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who was then on a tour of states in the region. Soon after, light arms and Brazilian-made armoured cars were delivered by Libya to Upper Volta. Most of this equipment went to the paratroop unit stationed at Po, 160 km (about 100 miles) south of the capital and loyal to Captain Sankara.

Soldiers at the Po barracks rebelled when Captain Sankara was arrested and removed as prime minister for allegedly seeking to deviate Major Ouedraogo's military regime from its original path in complicity with a Marxist group, the Patriotic League for Development (Lipad), and with the backing of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi.

Captain Sankara frequently called on the people to maintain revolutionary vigilance, and made pointed references to France. Such declarations, and leaflets inspired by him treating his colleagues as "reactionaries," helped seal his split with Major Ouedraogo. His arrest on May 17 came on the day of a scheduled visit to Ouagadougou by French presidential adviser Guy Penne.

This was seen at the time as a move to reassure foreign opinion. The Libyan charge d'affaires was at the same time asked to leave the country.

Captain Sankara's return to the political forefront can only cause concern in ruling circles in neighbouring countries such as Niger and also Ivory Coast. The authorities in Abidjan claim to have seen the hand of Tripoli in recent student and teacher unrest, for example. Also bordering both Upper Volta and Ivory Coast is Ghana, where the regime of Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings is sympathetic to Libya. Coming on top of Libyan involvement in Chad, observers thus see latest events in Upper Volta as only increasing uncertainty in the region.

Sankara Profiled

AB051600 Paris AFP in French 1406 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Jerome Mainguet commentary]

[Text] Niamey, 5 August (AFP) — Captain Thomas Sankara, who has just taken over power in Upper Volta at the head of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], is said to be a staunch admirer of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution.

He is also closely connected with, if not an actual member of, a very active Marxist group, the Patriotic League for Development (Lipad).

Capt Sankara, who was born on 21 December 1949 at Yako in central Upper Volta, is of Dpii-Mossi origin, an ethnic group composed of Fulanis and Mossis, the Mossis being the largest group in the country.

Capt Sankara, who is slim, tall, and athletic, has a smiling face and is elegant either in fatigue dress or in a suit. He is, according to journalists who have met him, a man of action who is deeply nationalistic and patriotic. He expresses in fiery speeches his violent hatred for "imperialism" and "neo-colonialism."

He expresses his opinions energetically, as he did a few months before participating in the 7 November 1982 coup d'etat alongside Dr Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo. At that time he pointed an accusing finger at Colonel Saye Zerbo, then head of state, and shouted publicly: "Woe betide those who gag the people."

Possessing a highly moral and self-disciplined character (he neither smokes nor drinks alcohol), he earned a reputation as a go-getter in 1975 when, at the age of 26, he infiltrated Malian territory at the head of a small platoon during the border dispute between Upper Volta and Mali.

Sankara was formerly a student at the Antsirabe Military Academy in Madagascar, at the school for parachutists in Pau, France, and at the center for parachutists in Rabat, Morocco. He assumed command of the parachute commandos stationed at Po, in the south of the country, in 1981. According to sources, that is where he met another young and ambitious captain, the Ghanaian Jerry Rawlings.

He caught Colonel Saye Zerbo's attention, and was offered a government post as state secretary to the Presidency [words indistinct] in Paris. He developed such a liking for his task that he began to annoy the head of state with his outspoken appeals for freedom of the press. In May 1982, Captain Sankara was confined to barracks. He used this time to prepare Col Zerbo's overthrow with some progressive captains and with Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, a liberal Catholic who was outraged by the authoritarianism and the taste for privileges among high-level Army officers.

Appointed prime minister on 2 February 1983, he proved himself to be a "progressive" and a defender of the Third World. He devoted his first tour abroad to Libya and North Korea and, on his way, made a heated statement at the nonaligned summit in New Delhi. All this came at a time when Major Ouedraogo was bent on reassuring the moderate countries of West Africa.

On 1 May, without the knowledge of the head of state, Sankara organized the surprise visit of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. The People's Salvation Council [CSP] thus became double-headed. On 17 May, President Ouedraogo, "overtaken" by events, ordered the arrest of Sankara and some of his followers, expelled him from the CSP, and accused him of wanting to take over power with the help of the Patriotic League for Development (which controls one of the three trade union organizations in the country), the Upper Voltan Trade Union Confederation, and with the support of Col al-Qadhdhafi. The head of state then dissolved the principal organs of the CSP, announced the return of the soldiers to their barracks, and the quick return of the country to normal constitutional rule.

Thomas Sankara and his friends wanted to prevent a return of the "old politicians and traditional political parties" to the scene and, to "radicalize" the military regime in a progressive way; but the speed of his revenge has surprised observers.

Sankara Statement on Relations With Libya

LD052256 Paris International Service in French 2115 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The following is an exclusive statement by Captain Sankara to RFI [Radio France International] in which he himself explains his relations with Tripoli. Thomas Sankara explained that his most recent visit — last March — to the Libyan capital was a bold move aimed at giving his Western partners something to think about. Here he is, speaking by telephone to (Catherine Rouel):

[Begin Sankara recording] (?I think) that being taken as a pawn of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi...Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is a man who must solve the problems of his country [word indistinct]. The thing is that Libya is not Upper Volta and Captain Sankara is not Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. There are certainly things (?to learn), but we cannot copy experiences and we cannot, under these circumstances, talk of a lack of [word indistinct] let alone of pawns. Furthermore, I believe that (?to excuse the) French press — it is because our brief passage in the [word indistinct] did not allow us to become known in France and to better communicate our stand on certain issues at the international level; very important issues such as relations with al-Qadhdhafi. However, we see that this meeting with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi stems from a certain will, a certain audacity too [words indistinct] to we Africans. There is a big difference between saying, between presenting us as Libyan [word indistinct], this is a bit much, to assume that we are incapable of thinking for ourselves and that, as a result, we can be manipulated. Furthermore, I would have preferred that the question be asked to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi himself, [words indistinct] to say whether or not we are capable of being manipulated as pawns by anyone, regardless of who it might be. [end recording]

Captain Sankara also gave his views on relations between France and Upper Volta during his conversation with (Catherine Rouel).

[Begin Sankara recording] We must above all deplore the fact that (?after) our brief passage in the [words indistinct] we should still be misunderstood by France. Perhaps both parties are at fault; nevertheless, we shall now have the opportunity to make ourselves better known and to demonstrate that, while the interests of the Upper Voltan people are (?dear), our very attachment to those Upper Voltan interests dictates that we must never violate the interests of other peoples, including those of the people of France. And, above all, more meetings that will enable us to better comprehend one another and give us the chance to present and clarify our precise views. [sentence as heard][end recording]

CNR Will Respect Existing Agreements, Seeks Peace

AB052150 [Editorial Report] Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French begins its new broadcast at 2000 GMT on 5 August with an unidentified announcer recounting the history of coup d'etats in Upper Volta since 1966, noting that the "4 August coup d'etat is the seventh in the political history of our country."

In what he designates an "analysis," the announcer says that "power has once again changed hands in Upper Volta." He notes that Captain Sankara, who was dropped from the CSP [People's Salvation Council] because he wanted to divert it from its initial policies, has returned to power.

He adds that, for the moment, the new government appears to have popular support, as was evidenced by the large turnout in Ouagadougou for this morning's support march. He notes that most of the participants were young.

Recalling Capt Thomas Sankara's address to the nation yesterday, he points out that Sankara realized that the events which led to the establishment of the CSP were betrayed last 17 May by individuals who were "strongly against the interests of the Upper Voltan people and their aspirations for democracy and freedom."

The announcer observes that on the international scene, Captain Sankara "pledged that the National Revolutionary Council will respect the agreements signed by our country with other countries and confirmed the country's membership in regional, continental, and international organizations." "The CNR is not against any country or any people, and proclaims its willingness to live in peace with all countries, especially with Upper Volta's neighbors."

The announcer says that "the main objective of the CNR is the defense of the interests of the Upper Voltan people, the realization of their profound desire for freedom, for true independence, and economic progress."

He comments that Capt Thomas Sankara's solution, like that of Guevara, though "short and bloody, marks his determination to forge a new future for Upper Volta."

Sankara Arranges Meetings With Various Groups

Meets Ouagadougou Officers

AB060755 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
0730 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] On 5 August 1983, the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] held a meeting with officers and noncommissioned officers of the Ouagadougou garrison. He explained to them the reasons for the creation of the CNR on 4 August 1983, and its objectives. Other garrisons will soon be supplied with the same information.

Will Receive Security Forces

AB052130 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2105 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Communique read by unidentified announcer]

[Text] We read this communique to you in French. For the purpose of the meeting that the chairman of the National Council of the Revolution is organizing for paramilitary officers, police, members of the republican guard, customs, and the CRS [Compagnie Republicaine de la Security], the secretaries general of pertinent ministerial departments are each invited to designate six representatives from the ranks of each corps. The meeting will take place on 6 August 1983, tomorrow, at 0900 at the conference hall of the Ministry of Interior and Security.

Meets With Paramilitary Units

AB061335 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] met this morning for more than an hour with the various paramilitary corps of our country. An informed source says that the council took the opportunity to explain to the delegates of the four paramilitary corps the reasons for the process launched on 4 August 1983. This source also says that the meeting enabled the paramilitary delegates to understand the process launched by the CNR to which they pledged their support.

It is observed that this is the first time that the Army has taken the initiative in promoting the interests of paramilitary units. The chairman of the CNR met officers and noncommissioned officers of the Ouagadougou garrison yesterday, Friday.

Sankara Receives Foreign Diplomats

AB062055 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], this afternoon separately received the members of the diplomatic corps accredited to our country and the representatives of international and inter-African organizations. To all of them, he first explained why the CNR decided to seize power; he said this was done because the People's Salvation Council had deviated from its political line and the objectives decided upon on 7 November 1982 — to allow the people to express their views and to establish true social justice. Then Capt Thomas Sankara explained the objectives of the CNR:

[Begin Sankara recording] As stated in its solemn proclamation of 4 August 1983, the CNR's ambition is to defend the personality and dignity of the people of Upper Volta. This particularly entails the strict application of a certain number of principles including respect for our sovereignty, non-interference in our internal affairs, and respect for our territorial integrity. To all peoples and states, we reaffirm our desire for frank, active, and loyal cooperation on the sole basis of reciprocal advantage and mutual respect for our options. It was in this spirit that we proclaimed our respect for the international commitments undertaken by Upper Volta.

We are anxious to reaffirm our membership in international, regional, and subregional organizations on the basis of respect for the principle of equality devoid of all imperialist, neocolonialist, or hegemonic designs. Our desire to search for peace will be in conformity with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement. We solemnly affirm our active solidarity with all the progressive forces in the world in order to ensure the triumph of justice and peace. We promise our unconditional support for all liberation movements in their heroic struggle for the elimination of the oppression and enslavement of man, regardless of his color or race. We stretch a fraternal hand to all the African states and particularly to our neighbors, with whom (?we would like to work) in solidarity and in an increased search for the welfare of our respective peoples.

The Upper Voltan revolution is not directed against any state or people. Long live peace and friendship among peoples! Long live international cooperation! Long live the Upper Voltan revolution! I thank you. [end recording]

French Envoy Misses Speech

AB070815 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, Aug 7 (AFP) — Upper Volta's new leftist military regime will give "unconditional support" to all national liberation movements, the country's new ruler, Captain Thomas Sankara, told foreign diplomats here Saturday.

He reiterated that he and his men had ousted President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo on Friday because the nine-month-old regime, in which he was for a time prime minister, had "strayed" from its declared policies of giving a voice to the people and enacting genuine social justice. The new regime's only aim, he said, was "the defence of the Voltan personality and dignity."

The French ambassador, the doyen of the diplomatic corps, was absent from the meeting with Capt Sankara.

Earlier Saturday, Capt Sankara met representatives of all ranks of the Armed Forces to explain his seizure of power, according to Radio Volta.

The radio said "Committees in Defense of the Revolution" were being formed in the capital in response to an appeal by Capt Sankara. The capital was calm in the wake of the coup, in which several people were killed. But the country's borders and the international airport were still closed and a night curfew was in force.

Members of the new Council of the Revolution have not been announced.

Curfew Reimposed 'Throughout Territory'

AB051820 [Editorial Report] Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French at 1810 GMT plays martial music that is interrupted by an unidentified announcer who says: "Ladies and gentlemen, the curfew has been reinstated throughout the territory from 1900 to 0530. Thus, the curfew is from 1900 to 0530."

All Ministerial Offices Ordered Closed

AB052330 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2316 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Communique read by unidentified announcer]

[Text] You are still tuned to Radio Upper Volta. It is now 2316. Here is a communique from the National Council of the Revolution: As of today, 5 August 1983, all ministerial offices have been closed until further notice. The permanent secretaries of the ministries are charged with the strict and immediate execution of the present directive.

Secretaries To Handle Business

AB061410 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 6 Aug 83

[National Council of the Revolution communique issued in Ouagadougou on 6 August]

[Text] With effect from today, 6 August 1983, the secretaries general of the various ministries are charged with the management of current affairs until a new government has been set up.

Radio Says 'Enemies' May Step Up 'Attempts'

AB061003 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0934 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Announcement by unidentified announcer]

[Text] Today is of course the second day of the advent of the National Council of the Revoulution [CNR]. There is as much room in the streets of Ouagadougou as there were crowds marching through the Upper Voltan capital on 5 August 1983 to greet the advent of the CNR. [sentence as heard] The revolution is sacred. Either overcome the enemies of the people or die for the fatherland. There is no third solution for equilibrist turncoats. United for the victory, we will overcome. The enemies of the people are at a loss. But they may step up their desperate attempts. So down with these hungry jackals. Victory is for the people.

Opposition To Be 'Struck Down'

AB061620 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Announcement by unidentified announcer]

[Text] Since Thursday, 4 August, a new wind has been blowing across Upper Volta — the wind of the revolution. Many people did not lose hope following the treachery of certain members of the People's Salvation Council that resulted in the expulsion of former Prime Minister Captain Thomas Sankara and his secretary general, Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani. The 4 August 1983 revolution has therefore come to bring a breath of relief to the people of Upper Volta, who truly needed to freed from their present condition. This act of liberation, though late in coming, has finally arrived. The revolution must be safeguarded.

Upper Volta is not a country to be sold off dirt cheap, and anyone who tries to do so will be struck down by the wrath of the people and the National Council of the Revolution [CNR]. Long live the revolution! Long live the people of Upper Volta!

Army Chief Recalls Soldiers Released From Duty

AB070630 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0620 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The Army chief of staff announces that soldiers who were released from active duty in 1978, 1979, and 1980 are asked to report beginning today, 7 August 1983, at 0800 at the garrison office in Ouagadougou.

Cadets, Lieutenants Summoned

AB071653 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1634 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Communique from the chief of defense staff — read by unidentified announcer]

[Text] The chief of the defense staff invites all cadet officers, all students in the preparatory cycle of the grand military schools, and all second lieutenants vacationing in Upper Volta to present themselves at PMK [expansion unknown] at 0800 on Monday, 8 August 1983, for service.

Defense Committees Being Set Up in Capital

AB070800 Paris AFP in French 0731 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 7 Aug (AFP) — The Upper Voltan radio announced that "Committees for the Defense of the Revolution" are being set up in various areas of Ouagadougou, the capital of Upper Volta, a few days after Captain Thomas Sankara overthrew the regime of President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo.

Captain Thomas Sankara, president of the National Council of the Revolution, called on the people to set up defense committees during his proclamation broadcast over the radio on Thursday night.

In its vernacular programs, the radio gives names of leaders of these committees, and calls on the inhabitants of these areas to contact them.

Youth Invited to Meeting

AB070918 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0818 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Announcement by an unidentified announcer]

[Text] All young people of Ouagadougou are invited to the house of El Hadj (Sanu) Moussa today, 7 August 1983, at 1100 precisely. Agenda: formation of defense committees in the area of Ouagadougou.

Late Report: Libyan Planes Reportedly Arrive

AB081225 Paris AFP in French 1204 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Niamey, 8 August (AFP) — It was learned from reliable sources in Niamey (Niger) on Monday that several Libyan planes have landed during the past two days at the airport in Ouagadougou, the capital of Upper Volta, where Captain Thomas Sankara has seized power in (?a coup organized by the) National Council of the Revolution.

According to the same sources, several Libyan "Ilyushin" planes made night flights during the curfew hours which still extend from 1900 to 0530 (local and GMT) and during which the airport is closed to civilian traffic.

The nature of the cargo unloaded by these planes in the Upper Voltan capital is not known, but many reliable sources contacted in Ouagadougou by telephone believe that they were arms.

According to eyewitnesses, the long avenue bordering part of the international airport runway and particularly the military aviation sector have been declared out-of-bounds. A squad of armed soldiers is defending the access roads.

It was learned from the same sources that Upper Voltan Army Chief of Staff Colonel Yaona Marcel Tamini has summoned soldiers discharged in 1978, 1979, and 1980 to report to the Ouagadougou garrison bureau.

Many hundreds of young men were being enrolled voluntarily on Monday by soldiers in uniform on General de Gaulle Avenue opposite the national radio station. In answer to a question, they declared that they were doing this "to defend the revolution."

This Libyan aid and the recall of three classes of soldiers seem to confirm rumors circulating in the capital that several provincial garrisons have still not declared support for the coup d'etat. According to these rumors, which are difficult to verify, Colonel Yoryan Gabriel Some, former chief of staff and secretary general of the National Defense Committee, has "sought refuge" at the Ouahigouya garrison (170 kms northeast of the capital) which has refused to support the new regime.

Lieutenant Jean-Baptiste Boucary Lingani, the second-in-command of the National Council of the Revolution (CNR) told AFP on Sunday that all the garrisons in the country have declared their support for the new regime. He also affirmed that the CNR had "no intention of arresting" Colonel Yoryan Gabriel Some.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos To Regulate Council of Ministers

MB060512 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Through a decree published in the official gazette, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, regulates the organization of the Council of Ministers Secretariat. Accordingly, the Secretariat will now fall directly under the head of government of the republic, and it is headed by a state secretary appointed by the head of state. This decree also suspends an earlier decree of April 1980 which regulated the functioning of the Council of Ministers and dealt with the change of its composition. The present presidential decree specifies that the Council of Ministers Secretariat must have a structure which, in functional terms, will provide for maximum cooperation with government activity and at the same time draft the topics to be examined by the Council.

Another decree from the Council of Ministers, also signed by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, gives a set of organizational, [word indistinct] and methodological measures for the improvement of the financial situation of economic units. The decree points out that all important state and mixed economic units must submit to the National Financing and Accounting Directorate of the Ministry of Finance the balance sheets and statements of account of the previous year of activity of the confiscated or nationalized enterprises before their integration into the state economic units. The general inventory of the confiscated or nationalized enterprises must be shown from the date of their integration into the state units, along with the balance sheets and statements of account of the state or mixed enterprises for the year 1982. Other particulars must also be sent to the National Financing and Accounting Directorate of the Ministry of Finance, such as 1982 inventories. [words indistinct] after December 1975, the [words indistinct] production plan for 1983 and medium term prospects.

It is the duty of the Ministry of Finance, through the National Financing and Accounting Directorate, to examine the organizational and financial situation of the state or mixed economic unit and find ways for their adequate financial improvement as well as to define rules to balance finances and to propose measures for the organization of their debts and credits.

Yet another decree from the Council of Ministers, also signed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and published in the official gazette, sets up (Tecnotunel), a building enterprise using (tunnel) technology. The (Tecnotunel), a state economic unit, is a national building enterprise with headquarters in Luanda and has as its main objective the adoption and application of (tunnel) technology within the framework of construction. The decree points out that the (Tecnotunel) falls directly under the Ministry of Construction and has fixed and floating capital totalling approximately $670 million.

SUNDAY TIMES Reports UNITA Communique

MB070842 Johannesburg Sunday Times in English 7 Aug 83 p 2

[By Tony Weaver]

[Text] Windhoek — The Angolan civil war has taken a bloody new turn with pitched battles being fought between government MPLA forces and guerrillas of the UNITA rebels, according to reports reaching Windhoek.

UNITA communiques say its forces have thrown a horseshoe of military might around the economic and military heart of Angola.

It claims that about 10,000 guerrillas have been deployed in the latest fighting and 273 MPLA troops and 15 Cubans killed. Four MiG-21 jets have been shot down.

The latest UNITA claims coincide with this week's announcement by Angola that direct military rule has been established in several key, unnamed provinces to combat the UNITA forces of Dr Jonas Savimbi.

Military sources in Windhoek said the UNITA claims had "come as a surprise" as they were not aware of renewed fighting.

A senior military source said: "At this stage we are not sure if this is propaganda or genuine statements on operational successes, but the magnitude of what they are claiming is so great that there must be a large degree of truth in it."

A senior diplomat who has visited Angola and has had contact with UNITA, said he also thought there had to be "some element of truth in the claims...they are too extravagant to be totally false."

With the UNITA claims of major military successes, came a counter-statement by the official Angolan news agency, ANGOP, that the 50 people killed and 210 injured in a landmine attack were mainly civilians, with only two soldiers being killed.

The blast, on July 26, dereailed the train in the Moxico Province. UNITA said the train was carrying troops only, but ANGOP denied this, and said although the final death toll was not known, over 50 women and children died in the blast.

The UNITA communique, issued by Jonas Savimbi, said UNITA forces had been deployed in the provinces of Moxico, Lunda, Malanje, Huambo and Cuanzo Sol.

If true, this means the rebels are in striking distance of all major Angolan towns and are almost ready to seize control of the country's economic heart.

The main points of the latest UNITA communique were:

— A massive offensive involving 10,000 UNITA troops was launched on August 1.

— The 10,000 troops included regular and special units.

— The MPLA's 21 Brigade was "totally annihilated" west of Luena (formerly Luso), in the central area and 250 km from the Zairean-Zambian border with Angola.

Two hundred and seventy three MPLA soldiers and 15 Cubans were killed while 27 MPLA were captured.

— An MPLA garrison comprising two brigades and one Cuban brigade at Cangongo, south of Luena, have come under "total siege" by UNITA.

— Three MiG-21s were shot down over Cangongo and one in the area between Chicala and Cungumbe.

— UNITA claimed to have retaken the Tari do Mukiki, an "MPLA secret agent training centre" roughly 300 km south-east of Luanda.

— In Huambo Province, UNITA claim to have retaken the town of Mungo.

Dr Savimbi's statement concluded: "UNITA forces are now deployed to push the whole way. If the MPLA refuses to talk to us, we will escalate the violence throughout the country until the Cubans leave the country.

"The struggle shall triumph, united we shall win." Signed: General Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, Supreme Commander of Fala and President of UNITA.

LESOTHO

Spokesman Says Bomb Meant for Jonathan

MB051632 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] A government spokesman announced today that further investigations into the [words indistinct] explosion in Maseru yesterday indicates the explosion was a direct attempt to assassinate the prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan. The prime minister's convoy passed the spot at which the car was parked as the prime minister was driving to his official residence during the lunch hour. The explosion missed the prime minister's convoy only by a few seconds. Investigations have also confirmed that the car which carried the bomb was registered in and originated from the Orange Free State in South Africa.

The government spokesman added that it was not surprising [words indistinct] the so-called Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA] had not claimed responsibility for the bomb as it usually does, because it was clear that the device was beyond the (?capability) of the LLA.

PRC Charge d'Affaires Arrives 4 August

MB051825 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the People's Republic of China, Mr (Lizhaoxing), arrived in Maseru yesterday at the head of a six-man delegation to establish a resident mission here. The other members of the delegation are one first secretary, two second secretaries, an additional member of staff, and a functionary at the embassy. According to a press release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr (Lizhaoxing) called on the minister of foreign affairs, the Honorable E.R. Sekhonyana, and presented letters introducing him as the charge d'affaires.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Tours Textile Factory Site in Zambezia

MB060734 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] President Smaora Machel continues his working visit to Zambezia Province. Yesterday, he visited Mocuba District, where he was expected to preside over a mass rally. In the district, the Mozambique head of state visited the Mocuba Textile Factory, still under construction, where he familiarized himself with the work being carried out. He was accompanied by Mario Machungo, the leader of Zambezia Province.

Machel Addresses Rally

MB060852 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] President Samora Machel, who is in Zambezia Province, yesterday afternoon presided over a mass rally at the Mocuba district headquarters. National unity was the central point of the speech by the Mozambique supreme leader during the rally attended by over 20,000 people. At the rally, Field Marshal Samora Machel spoke at length about the criminal activities of armed bandits, as well as the objectives of imperialism which trains and arms these criminals.

The Mocuba residents asked for arms from the Mozambique head of state to repulse enemy action in that region of the country. Also at the rally, the Mocuba residents handed a 83,000-metical check from their contributions to support the victims of the South African attack on Matola in May this year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Johannesburg Synagogue Rocked by Explosion

MB060527 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] The Temple of Israel, the synagogue on the corner of Claim and Paul Nel Streets in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, was rocked by an explosion in its precincts early this morning. Police are still investigating. The state president, Mr Marais Viljoen, was due at the temple at 1000 this morning, for the 50th anniversary of progressive Judaism in Johannesburg.

The wife of Rabbi (Mendel) of the synagogue told the South African Broadcasting Corporation a few minutes ago that they have no idea what the extent of the damage is.

SAPA Details Synagogue Blast

MB060709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0655 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Johannesburg, August 6, SAPA — The Temple Israel Synagogue, on the corner of Paul Nel and Claim streets, Hillbrow, was damaged by an explosion early this morning, police said today.

The explosion occurred at 5:57 this morning, Colonel Fred Bull, the police liaison officer for the Witwatersrand, said.

"The extent of the damage is not known, and at this stage it is not known whether people were injured," he said.

The state president, Marais Viljoen, was due to attend the synagogue this morning.

The explosion was heard up to four km away.

The state president was due at the temple at 10am for the 50th anniversary of progressive Judaism in Johannesburg.

Synagogue windows were broken by the blast as well as windows in an adjacent hall.

Police have cordoned off the area.

It is believed the synagogue was not badly damaged inside.

Also due to attend the ceremony this morning are the administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Willem Cruywagen, and the mayor of Johannesburg, Mr Alan Gadd.

The Israeli Ambassador, Mr F. Lankin, and U.S. office bearers of the progressive congregation were also due to attend this morning's service.

Residents of an hotel across the road from the Temple Israel, woken by the blast, thought the hotel had been blown up. Others thought synagogue had been flattened.

No Injuries in Blast

MB061050 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1014 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Johannesburg, August 6, SAPA — A blast inside a Johannesburg synagogue, a possible assassination attempt on the state president, Marais Viljoen, injured nobody.

A police spokesman said Temple Israel, in Claim Street, Hillbrow, was damaged but there were no casualties.

Police are still investigating the cause of the blast.

The spokesman said the explosion "appeared to have come from inside" the temple.

He said the damage inside was "fairly extensive."

The explosion occurred only hours before the state president, Marais Viljoen, was due to attend a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of progressive Judaism at the Temple.

Police said no extra precautions were taken for the state president's security following the blast.

The ceremony was moved to another synagogue and President Viljoen was to deliver the speech at the new venue.

Also due to attend the service were the administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Willem Cruywagen, the mayor of Johannesburg and the Israeli ambassador.

Police said until they had a forensic report they would not be able to tell what caused the explosion.

Security Chief Suspects ANC

MB080944 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 8 Aug 83 p 1

[By Emielia Jaroschek, crime reporter]

[Excerpt] A communist limpet mine was used in the explosion at the Temple Israel in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, at the weekend, security police said last night.

Major-General Fran Steenkamp, chief of the South African Security Police, said information he had indicated that the African National Congress was behind the attack. The blast, which occurred on Saturday, damaged large portions of the temple — hours before the state president, Mr Marais Viljoen, and top dignitaries were to have attended a religious ceremony there.

Gen Steenkamp said last night: "Remnants of a limpet mine of communist origin were found at the scene. Similar types of limpet mines have been used only by the ANC in previous attacks in this country so far. This leads me to believe that the ANC was behind the explosion. However, investigations are at an early stage and far from complete so I cannot commit myself," Gen Steenkamp said.

He said no arrests had been made so far.

Reports from London shortly after the attack were that the ANC had denied responsibility.

Responsibility For Maseru Blast Denied

MB051756 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The South African Government has rejected as totally groundless claims by Lesotho that South Africa was responsible for a car bomb explosion in Maseru yesterday. The minister of information of Lesotho, Mr Desmond Sixishe, made the allegation.

The SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION reports that a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information has said in Pretoria that, like most allegations which have emanated from Lesotho over the past few months, the latest claim is totally groundless.

Earlier the Lesotho Government said further investigation had shown that the explosion had been an assassination attempt on the prime minister of Lesotho, Dr Jonathan. A statement issued in Maseru says the bomb exploded only a few seconds after a convoy, including a car in which Dr Jonathan was traveling, had passed the booby-trapped vehicle.

SAAF Jet Crashes on Routine Flight Near Pretoria

MB080936 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0931 GMT 8 Aug 83

[Text] Pretoria, Aug 83, SAPA — A South African Air Force Impala Mark-1 jet crashed near Pretoria today — the second in less than a month. The crash, near the animal and dairy science research institute at Irene, happended shortly after 9:30 am.

Emergency teams from the Verwoerdburg Fire and Ambulance Department were called out at 9:45 am and rushed to the scene. At the time of the crash low cloud, mist, and rain were reported in the area.

A SAAF Headquarters spokesman said nothing was known at this stage of the pilots fate. An SAAF spokeswoman said the aircraft had crashed at about 10:00 am. The aircraft was based at Waterkloof Air Base.

"Further details regarding the pilot are not known, a board of inquiry has been convened and is already busy at the site of the accident," she added. Sources said the aircraft crashed on the Irene experimental farm near Pretoria.

This is the second time in less than a month that an Air Force jet has crashed near Pretoria during a routine flight. An SAAF Impala jet crashed into a wooded hillside near Waterkloof Air Base on July 12, killing the pilot and narrowly missing scores of houses in the Pretoria suburb of Monument Park.

ANC Men Reportedly Flee to Swaziland

MB070741 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 7 Aug 83

[Text] The South African police are searching for the members of an African National Congress murder squad sent to the country to attack specific targets. However, it is believed that they have escaped to Swaziland.

The gang lost two of its members in September last year, when hand grenades exploded in a car while they were trying to avoid arrest near Johannesburg. It recruited two former safe- crackers, 35-year old (Freddie Butana Shongwe) and 42-year old (Bakai Ezekiel Maseko), to carry out terrorist attacks.

The men fired a number of rockets at the school and military base at Voortrekkerhoogte near Pretoria in August 1981, and they were killed when a car bomb exploded prematurely in Pretoria on 20 May. Seventeen other people were killed and more than 200 injured by the blast.

Three Appear in Court on ANC-Related Charges

MB060624 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] An executive member of the Federation of South African Women, Amanda Kwadi, has appeared in the Johannesburg court on security charges. But she appeared together with George Moilwa and Samuel Tsele. They were not asked to plead, and the case has been remanded until 31 August. They are not eligible for bail.

The charge sheet says that they are charged with participating in ANC activities and an alternative charge under the Internal Security Act. They were all arrested this morning.

Two Students Convicted of ANC Activity

MB060625 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Two former Turfloop University students have been found guilty of charges under the terrorism act. Peter Mokaba and Jerome Maake pleaded guilty to charges under the Terrorism and Internal Security Act in the Pietersburg Regional Court.

Maake and Mokaba were convicted of being ANC members and receiving military training in Swaziland, Mozambique, and Botswana. They were also found guilty of possessing arms and ammunition. The case has been adjourned until 12 August for mitigation and sentence.

Mdantsane, Ciskei Situation Returns to Normal

MB051850 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The liaison officer of the Ciskei police, Major Ngaki, says the situation at Mdantsane and Ciskei in general is back to normal. He told our correspondent at Zwelitsha that he couldn't yet release the names of the people who died in unrest at Mdantsane because no one had come forward to identify five of the bodies. He said he couldn't elaborate on injuries suffered in the unrest because the police were still busy with their investigation. He said investigations had shown that, because of intimidation, the people of Mdantsane were not making use of the bus services at present. Many people would actually like to use the buses.

Police Confirm 21 Detained

MB060551 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Ciskei police have confirmed the detention of 21 people. Ciskei head of state security, (Zeblon Makhuzeni), says the 21, who are mostly trade union members, are being held in terms of the Ciskei National Security Act. Among those detained today, and it has not been confirmed by (Makhuzeni), are three members of the African Food and Canning Workers Union. They are (Mpumelelo Mthinsilana), (Mgegege Mdashe), and (Zameka Mkhapukise). Union officials in East London have put the number of detained as 23, and not 21. Most of those being detained are members of either the South African Allied Workers Union or the African Food and Canning Workers Union.

Police Given Restraining Order

MB060654 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] Ciskeian Police have received an order to stop assaulting workers in Mdantsane. The Ciskei Supreme Court granted an interim order yesterday restraining law enforcement bodies from assaulting, intimidating, or harassing workers. The order follows the deaths of five people in Mdantsane on Thursday. The interdict was brought by workers in the township against the ministers of defense, police, and justice.

Mdantsane Students Boycott Classes

MB060659 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 6 Aug 83

[Text] More than 1,000 school pupils have walked out of classes at a school in Mdantsane. According to the principal of Wongalethu School, 1,100 students walked out of school yesterday in protest against Ciskei police action against bus boycotters.

Five people were shot dead in Mdantsane on Thursday after police opened fire on commuters who were waiting to board trains into East London. Meanwhile the bus boycott is continuing. Five drivers have been injured in stone throwing incidents and more than 40 buses damaged. A spokesperson for the Ciskei Transport Corporation says none of the drivers was badly injured but the damage to the buses will run into thousands of rands.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Receives Mozambique Foreign Minister

MB051917 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] President Kaunda has commended Frelimo for establishing a society of exemplary racial harmony in Mozambique. Receiving a 10-man Frelimo delegation led by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano at State House, Dr Kaunda noted that Frelimo has since independence removed all impediments to the harmonious coexistence of races.

The president said Frelimo's success in establishing a nonracial society is demonstrated by the occupation of some high party and state posts by Mozambicans of Eurpean origin. Dr Kaunda said in this way Frelimo has brought about a more civilized society than the Portuguese ever hoped to do. Dr Kaunda expressed satisfaction with relations between Zambia and Mozambique, noting that the two countries were cooperating in all the five main areas of human endeavor. In reply, Mr Chissano called for the strengthening of relations between UNIP [United National Independence Party] and Frelimo, as these ties were the basis for cooperation between two countries. He expressed the hope that the two sides would have a chance during the visit to review cooperation between the two countries and explore areas of further cooperation.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Meets With FRG Minister; Aid Promised

MB060609 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] The West German Government is to provide Zimbabwe with aid totaling 25 million dollars during 1983. Speaking at a news conference in Harare today, the visiting West German minister for economic cooperation, Dr Juergen Warnke, said his government will also hold shares in the Zimbabwe Development Bank, as it has put aside about 3 million dollars as equity. He praised the policy of reconciliation being pursued by the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and emphasized that this will ensure economic development in this country. Earlier today, the German minister called on Comrade Mugabe at his office at Parliament building, during which he delivered a message from Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany. He also held a meeting with the Roman Catholic Church officials, who were led by the archbishop of Zimbabwe, (Patrick Chakayza).

SAPA: Government To Control News About Insurgency

MB051652 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1345 GMT 5 Aug 83

[Text] Harare, Aug 5, SAPA — The Zimbabwe Government today assumed powers to stop foreign and local journalists from reporting unoffical stories about insurgent and counter-insurgent activities. An amendment to the Emergency Regulations published in today's government gazette gives the authorities power to control the flow of news from "designated areas."

Generally, neither dissident activities in such areas nor government countermeasures may be reported in domestic media or in dispatches abroad. Excepted from the ban are official statements to the press, privileged reports on court and parliamentary proceedings, and stories specifically authorised by the minister of information posts and telecommunications in consultation with the minister of home affairs. In essence this means all news gathered by reporters about insurgent activities and government measures to counter them must be submitted for official approval — and must then be used strictly in the approved form. "Designated areas" are areas defined in the government gazette by the minister of home affairs, for up to two months at a time. Contravention of the regulations are punishable by fines of up to 1,000 Zimbabwe dollars (R1,100) and up to two years imprisonment. Editors and assistant editors and reporters will be held jointly responsible.